



BEAR REPORT

A NEWSPAPER DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO THE
CHICAGO BEARS AND THE NFL.

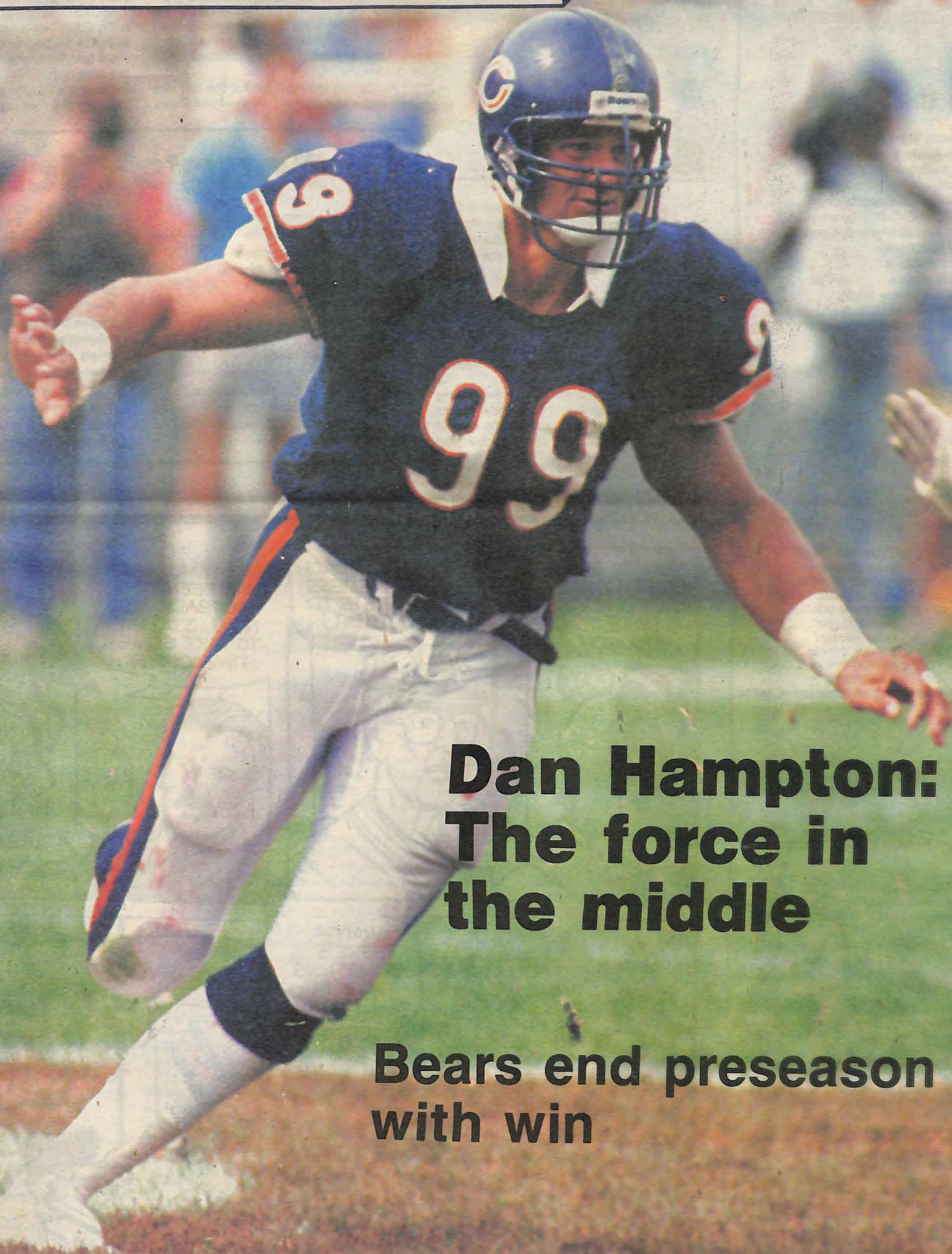
VOL. 14 NO. 10

SEPTEMBER 11, 1989

\$1.95

**Complete preview
of season opener
vs. Cincinnati**

**Bears trim roster
to final 47**



**Dan Hampton:
The force in
the middle**

**Bears end preseason
with win**





A newspaper devoted exclusively to the
Chicago Bears and the NFL

Vol. 14, No. 10 September 11, 1989

Cover photo by
Steve Woltmann

On the inside...

Q-A with Mike Ditka	3
Bears-Raiders game wrapup	4
Final cuts made	6
Season opener preview	8
Bears-Bengals depth chart	9
The Official Call... by Jeffrey Leaf	11
Trace Armstrong color poster... photo by Steve Woltmann	12-13
Bear Notebook	14
Central Issues... by John Delcos	16
Question of the Week	20
NFL Notebook... by Don Pierson	21
Letters to the editor	22
1989 NFL Schedule	23

Linemen were key to great long drives by Bears Saturday

The Bears' offensive showing against the Raiders Saturday, and the three long drives the offense put together to start the game, are really a credit to the way the linemen played.

DOUG BUFFONE



It's all very simple — as the offensive line goes, so go the Bears. The linemen ripped holes for the running backs, allowed no sacks and didn't have any of the costly penalties that haunted them in recent games.

I played defense in the NFL, and we talked about how tough 80-yard drives were for an offense to put together. Either interceptions, penalties or some other type of turnover usually will sooner or later cost an offense on that long of a drive.

For the Bear offense to put three long drives like that together is remarkable. It just shows that when you're concentrating and not making mistakes you can be real productive.

The Bear passing game really clicked and made use of everyone. When an offense does that, the defense can't pinpoint where the offense is going, which makes it tough.

And I'll tell you one thing about the play of Wendell Davis — a good quarterback can become great when his receivers make great catches. And that's just what Davis did Saturday. The Bear quarterbacks played very well, but Davis allowed them to have a great day by making fantastic catches in the end zone.

I like to see receivers go for the ball like that, and when a young receiver like Davis

is able to do that, it's a good sign.

As for the defense, the first string really only gave up one touchdown. But overall, it has to improve its pass rush. It's easy to say that rookie cornerback Donnell Woolford had a tough game, but I thought he was right there most of the game.

You can't hang your head when a guy like Willie Gault beats you deep. He's going to do that to the best cornerbacks in the league. What hurt Woolford a little bit was the lack of a pass rush. When a quarterback has time to throw, it's hard to stick with a receiver for that long of a time, especially a Willie Gault.

Doug's Picks

Bears by three over Bengals

Chicago good on opening day

Saints by 6 over Cowboys

Dallas not a miracle team this year

Rams by 5 over Falcons

Atlanta has long way to go

Lions by 3 over Cardinals

I like what Fontes is doing

49ers by 2 over Colts

A tough opener for San Francisco

Packers by 10 over Buccaneers

Green Bay is more improved

Steelers by 3 over Browns

Cleveland on the way down

Jets by 5 over Patriots

New England hasn't improved that much

Oilers by 5 over Vikings

Houston is used to indoors

Bills by 3 over Dolphins

Miami has no defense

Eagles by 3 over Seahawks

Philadelphia looks tough this year

Chiefs by 3 over Broncos

Schottenheimer will turn around K.C.

Chargers by 3 over Raiders

Los Angeles still struggling

Redskins by 6 over Giants

A good way to open up Monday night

DRAW PLAY By Dick Kulpa

GENERAL MANAGER

John Weishar

MANAGING EDITOR

Michael Polzin

ADVERTISING SALES

Ronald Royle

Cathy Hanson

112 Market St., Sun Prairie, WI 53590

608/837-5161

MEMBER

Professional Football Publications Assoc.

National Advertising

Randy McMillen

P.O. Box 97

Berea, OH 44107-2535

216/234-4285

National Marketing Rep.

Parkin Promotions

John Parkin

President

5165 Thornbark Dr.

Hoffman Estates, IL 60194

ROYLE PUBLISHING CO., INC.

Richard L. Royle, President

John Weishar, Publications Manager

ROYLE PUBLISHING CO., INC.

Richard L. Royle, President

John Weishar, Publications Manager

Bear Report is published on Monday, 26 times a year including weekly August through December, monthly in January, February, April, May and July, in addition two playoff issues are possible in January.

Second Class postage paid at Sun Prairie, WI 53590.

Postmaster: Please send change of address form number 3579 to Bear Report, 112 Market Street, Sun Prairie, WI 53590.

General offices at 112 Market Street, Sun Prairie, WI 53590. Please send subscription requests to 112 Market Street, Sun Prairie, WI 53590, telephone 608/837-2200.

Editorial offices at 755 Dover Place, Wheeling, IL 60090, telephone 312/520-7131.

Bear Report is a wholly owned subsidiary of "55" Enterprises, and not an official publication of the Chicago Bears.

All rights reserved, no portion of this publication may be reproduced without permission.

USPS 3228-5000



Q & A With Mike Ditka

Team looks to be on schedule



(Taken from Mike Ditka's press conferences last week.)

Q: Is the team on schedule for the opening game of the regular season?

A: I hope so. You never really know for sure. I think so. I think we are. The main thing right now is physically we're not too bad. We're in pretty good shape. If we can stay that way and keep our tackles healthy and not get anybody hurt this week that would be another fine thing to come out of the game.

Q: Looking at the overall season, you say "Whatever it takes." What is it going to take?

A: It's going to take good defense. It's going to take smart special teams. It's going to take an offense that doesn't beat itself. Those are the three main things right now.

Therefore we have to be in the same areas we were last year. We have to be able to run the ball effectively, we have to give Neal (Anderson) room to break some, and we have to be able to get the passes off. When we have to go deep, we have to have time to go deep. That's what it's going to take.

But other than that, we have to get back in the rhythm of passing the ball and the possession-type passes and not trying to take anything that they don't give us. Take what they give us. That means a lot. That means the receivers have to get off the ball when they're (blitzing). That means the line has to protect. The quarterback has to put the ball on the money. Those are the things it's going to take.

We have to play good defense. The first week we're going up against a good running team. We have to be ready for that.

Q: Some players, when they leave Chicago, always seem to have some anger directed toward you. Does that get old after a while?

A: I think in life you consider the source of everything that happens. I tell you what I'll do. I'll put my record up against any-

body's comments. I've been in the game now for 29 years, and if I don't know what the game's all about — I've seen guys come and go, I've seen the big mouths, I've seen the crybabies, I've seen the complainers, I've seen the guys who don't want to pay the price, and they usually end up on the outside looking in. But the guys who are willing to pay the price and work for me, I've never had any problems with.

Records speak, the other stuff is just bull.

Q: How much stock will you put into the Raiders' game when it comes time to make the final cuts?

A: It's not going to make the whole difference. If somebody really shows outstanding and somebody else who's competing at the same position doesn't show outstanding, then I would say it would weigh a lot against one individual and for another individual. But we have a pretty good idea, but we don't have it set in cement yet. So we just have to wait and see what happens.

Q: How does a guy like Mark Green sit before the game?

A: I'll tell you more about that on Monday. He sits pretty good but it depends. There's a lot of guys that sit pretty good. Taylor sits pretty good, too. Some of those fullbacks sit pretty good, too. So it's just a matter of making the decision.

That will be a tough decision. The backs will be a tough decision. There's no question about it. There's other ones, too — the defensive line, linebacker, secondary. There's a lot of tough decisions, but we have to make them. That's why we're here.

Q: Do you approach the final preseason game any different than the first three?

A: Not really. We're going to play what we put in (the game plan) and work on that. Our job is to be ready for the Cincinnati ballclub when they come in here next week. And we're not going to do anything to disrupt that.

To get the passing game going this season Mike Ditka wants to see his receivers, like Ron Morris, get off

the ball quick to help out the quarterback on blitzes. (Bear Report photo by David Garot)

We're going to go out there and play them and try to win the football game, which we always try to do.

But we realize the more important things are ahead of us. So it's not so much this game. The last game you like to get at a good tempo. You like to go into the season on a good note and with everybody playing hard and producing out there.

Sometimes when you make a lot of changes you get out-manned at certain positions. So I'm not too worried about it. I just want us to go out there and play smart football.

And when I say smart football I don't want the ball turned over, I don't want the penalties, I don't want the things that hurt us last week to be a factor this week. If we can avoid those things then I think I'd be very happy because I think we'd do all right.

Q: Is it more of a dress rehearsal when you're looking for consistency than trying different things?

A: Well, you always try to win. That's foolish to say you don't try to win. But I think the consistency thing, doing things the right way, our way, the Bear way, start making the right decisions out there with the quarterback — let's not make the silly mistakes. Let's not leave the ball on the ground. Let's not throw the interceptions. If we can stay away from that, I'd be happy.

Also, everytime we go forward I don't want to go backward with a penalty.

Q: Did the players get the message this week about how things stand?

A: Those that have ears, let them hear. Those that don't, they have problems. But I think they understand me. My only interest is to make this football team the best team it can be. If I'm going to be lackadaisical about it and not be concerned about the things that are wrong, then there's no rea-

son for them to be concerned, either. They have to know that it's important, that I think it's important, and that the coaching staff thinks it's important to do the things the right way. They're all paid well. Do things right.

60 PAGES OF FOOTBALL

CROSSWORD
PUZZLES

WORD
QUESTIONS
and
ANSWERS

72
FOOTBALL
PUZZLES



NFC Sports Crossword Puzzles

AFC Sports Crossword Puzzles

I am enclosing \$5.00 per copy plus \$1.00 shipping and handling for each copy. Personal checks or money orders only please. Make payable to Sports Crosswords.

Please charge to my ☐ American Express

NAME Card Number Exp. Date

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

SEND TO: SPORTS CROSSWORDS

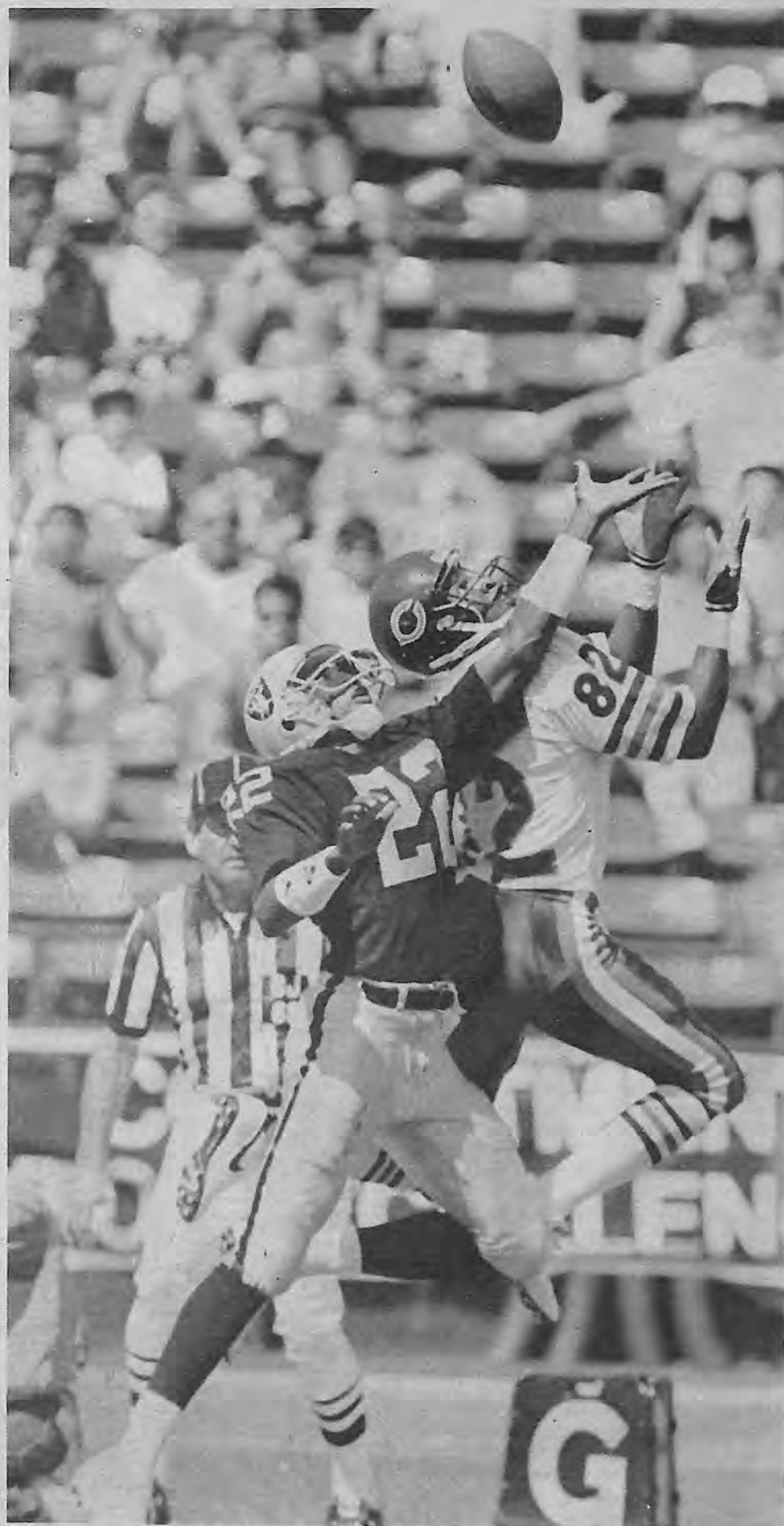
P.O. Box 7404, Stockton, CA 95207

Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for delivery. Quantity sales apply on letterhead.

Game Wrapup

Final tuneup has Bears set

Offense shows its potential in 41-38 win over Raiders



Wendell Davis gets ready to haul in one of his three touchdown catches against the Raiders Saturday. This one came over former Bear Mike Richardson. (Bear Report photo by Steve Woltmann)

By Michael Polzin
Managing Editor

LOS ANGELES — The Bears got out of the L.A. Coliseum with a 41-38 win over the Raiders Saturday with their offense in full gear in the final tuneup for the regular season.

As for the defense giving up 38 points, well, the Bears would just as soon forget about that.

It's been the offense that's struggled the last two weeks for the Bears, and a strong showing by the guys with the ball did much more to help the Bears get set for the regular season than the defense hurt them.

Strong showings by quarterbacks Mike Tomczak and Jim Harbaugh, wide receiver Wendell Davis and the offensive line were what Mike Ditka will take out of this game.

Davis was especially impressive, catching three touchdown passes, including the game-winner, and four passes overall for 79 yards in his finest performance as a Bear. Too bad it won't go in the record books.

"I think it's what we've always known," Ditka said. "But when you're not getting the ball to him that much and you don't get him on the field but every other series, some of those things you don't see."

What made Davis' performance even more impressive was that he caught two of his touchdown passes while getting interfered with. "His concentration, that's what I'm glad to see," Ditka said. "I think this is going to be great for his morale, too. It certainly gives him a big boost."

Tomczak showed he's ready for the regular season as he completed 13-of-18 passes for 164 yards and one touchdown. At one point, he completed 11 passes in a row.

Harbaugh, meanwhile, brought the Bears back when they were behind twice in the second half while playing with the second string. He completed 10-of-13 passes for 186 yards and three touchdowns.

"I thought the quarterbacks threw the ball, in most cases, about as well as you can throw it," Ditka said.

The consistency the Bears will need for the regular season showed in their initial drive of the game. The Bears took the opening kickoff and marched 87 yards in 15 plays, taking 8:05 off the clock in the process, and scoring on Neal Anderson's five-yard run for an early 7-0 lead.

There were no penalties on the drive, and the Bears were 4-of-4 on third-down conversions. Tomczak completed 4-of-4 passes to four different receivers on the drive for 57 yards.

The Bear offense kept up the consistency after getting the ball back for their second possession when Shaun Gayle intercepted a Jay Schroeder pass intended for Willie Gault at the Bear six-yard line and returned it to the 13.

Anderson converted a 3rd-and-1 at the Bear 22, then Tomczak hit Dennis Gentry for 18 yards and Cap Boso for seven.

The Bears then gave the ball back to Anderson, who rushed 35 yards to the Raider 15 on the final play of the first quarter. A three-yard rush by Brad Muster and an 11-yard pass to Muster put the ball at the one-yard line, from where Anderson dived into the end zone for the score.

Rookie Jerry Fontenot snapped the extra point high with Kevin Butler never getting off the kick, leaving the Bears with a 13-0 lead.

With the Bear defense holding the Raiders to three plays and a punt, the offense got one more chance to put another long drive

together, and it took advantage of it.

Starting from their own six-yard line this time, the Bears marched 94 yards on 12 plays in 8:52 to score on an 11-yard pass from Tomczak to Davis, who made a great adjustment on the throw to make the catch. Fontenot made a good snap on the extra-point attempt this time to give the Bears a 20-0 lead with 3:30 left in the half.

While the Bears were piling up the yardage and points with long drives, the Raiders preferred quick strikes. Bears' rookie cornerback Donnell Woolford got his initiation into the NFL when Schroeder connected with speedy Willie Gault on a straight bomb for a 78-yard touchdown completion, pulling the Bears to within 13 points at 20-7.

The Raiders got another chance to score before the end of the half after a 38-yard punt by Maury Buford and 20-yard return by Tim Brown gave them the ball at the Bear 41. A 23-yard pass from Schroeder to Mervyn Fernandez got them to the 18, and five plays later Schroeder threw over Dante Jones to tight end Mike Dyal for the score with 25 seconds left in the half. Despite holding the ball for 23:13 in the first half, the Bears held just a 20-14 lead at the break.

Harbaugh and the second-string offensive line started the second half for the Bears and picked up where the first-string offense left off. Harbaugh directed the Bears from their own 41 to the Raider 32-yard line, where he hit Davis in the end zone on a pass down the left sideline for a touchdown and 27-14 Bears' lead.

It was Davis' second excellent touchdown catch of the game. This time he had to leap over the Raiders' cornerback to come down with the catch.

Again, though, the Raiders came back to score on a one-yard run by Kerry Porter, making the score 27-21. The touchdown was set up by a 38-yard pass over Woolford from Schroeder to Mike Alexander. Woolford had good position on the play, but the ball was put in the perfect spot for Alexander.

Ditka wasn't worried that Woolford gave up a couple of big plays in the game. "Our (cornerbacks) didn't get beat as bad as their's did," he said. "This is big-time football. I thought there were a couple real good throws. I'd rather have it happen this week than next week. He's going to be there. He's got to bare the brunt of it."

The Raiders took the lead after Bears' running back Curtis Stewart fumbled at the Bear 43-yard line and Eddie Anderson recovered for the Raiders at the 34.

Los Angeles then used nine plays to score on a two-yard run by Kerry Porter to grab the lead at 28-27 with 1:22 left in the third quarter.

But the Bears got the lead right back five plays later when Harbaugh connected with rookie Tom Waddle on a 59-yard bomb for a touchdown and 34-28 lead with 14:09 to play.

The Bears took the lead for good when Harbaugh hit Davis again on a 23-yard touchdown pass with 1:43 left to play. Davis again caught the ball despite getting interfered with.

So are the Bears a team that can score 41 points a game consistently in the regular season? "It depends on which (offense) shows up," Ditka said. "We could score some points."

What helped the quarterbacks a lot this game was they had time to throw the ball for the first time in three weeks. "I was happy with the protection today," Ditka said. "I thought it was much better."

SEXY HONEYBEAR PINUP

Beautiful Model/Actress Beth Webster in this gorgeous Chicago Honey Bear Bikini Pinup. She dares to be Bear!

SEND \$3.99 TO: PINUP

3 GOLF CENTER, SUITE 143
HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL 60195

NFL FILMS PRESENTS

1987 Bears Team Highlights

VHS FORMAT \$19.95

Send Check or Money Order To:

SPORTS TO GO

2408 KENMORE, SCHAUMBURG, IL 60193

Bears-Raiders game statistics

SCORING SUMMARY

Chicago Bears	7	13	7	14	—	41
Los Angeles Raiders	0	14	14	10	—	38

Bears, 1:05, Anderson 5-yard run, Butler kick
 Bears, 2:11, Anderson 1-yard run, Butler no good
 Bears, 2:11:30, Davis 11-yard pass Tomczak, Butler kick
 Raiders, 2:12:31, Gault 78-yard pass Schroeder, Jaeger kick
 Raiders, 2:14:35, Dyal 4-yard pass Schroeder, Jaeger kick
 Bears, 3:08, Davis 32-yard pass Harbaugh, Butler kick
 Raiders, 3:7:47, Porter 1-yard run, Jaeger kick
 Raiders, 3:13:38, Porter 2-yard run, Jaeger kick
 Bears, 4:0:51, Waddle 59-yard pass Harbaugh, Butler kick
 Raiders, 4:5:39, FG 30-yards Jaeger
 Raiders, 4:9:33, Fernandez 57-yard pass Beuerlein, Jaeger kick
 Bears, 4:13:07, Davis 23-yard pass Harbaugh, Butler kick
 Attendance: 32,652; Tickets Distributed: 39,061; Unused: 6,409; Time: 3:13
 Weather: Hazy; Temperature: 80 degrees; Wind: W 10-13

FINAL TEAM STATISTICS

	Bears	Raiders
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	25	19
By Rushing	10	7
By Passing	14	9
By Penalty	1	3
THIRD DOWN EFFICIENCY	7-12-58%	4-8-50%
FOURTH DOWN EFFICIENCY	0-1-0%	0-1-0%
TOTAL NET YARDS	508	338
Total Off. Plays		
(Inc. times thrown passing)	71	54
Av. Gain per Off. Play	7.2	6.3
NET YARDS RUSHING	158	64
Total Rushing Plays	40	19
Av. Gain Per Rush. Play	3.9	3.4
NET YARDS PASSING	350	274
Times Thrown —		
Yds. Lost Att. To Pass	0	1-13
Gross Yds. Passing	350	287
PASS ATT. — COMP. —		
HAD INTERCEPTED	31-23-0	34-16-2
Av. Gain Per Pass Play		
(Inc. times thrown passing)	11.3	7.8
KICKOFF — NO. IN END ZONE —		
TOUCHBACKS	0	1
PUNTS — NO. AND AV.	3-47.6	2-46
Had Blocked	0	0
FGs + PATs HAD BLOCKED	0	0
TOTAL RET. YARDAGE		
(Excluding Kickoff Returns)	99	179
No. and Yds. Punt Ret.	1-2	3-50
No. and Yds. KO Returns	6-86	6-129
No. and Yds. Interc. Ret.	2-11	0
PENALTIES — NUMBER AND YARDS	5-73	7-45
FUMBLES — NO. AND LOST	1-1	1-0
TOUCHDOWNS	6	5
Rushing	2	2
Passing	4	3
Returns	0	0
EXTRA POINTS MADE — ATT.	5-6	5-5
FG MADE — ATT.	0	1-1
TIME OF POSSESSION	39:18	20:42

FINAL INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Chicago Bears

RUSHING	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
Anderson	10	64	6.4	35	2
Sanders	5	21	4.2	7	0
Muster	4	17	4.3	6	0
Stewart	5	16	3.2	5	0
Taylor	6	15	2.5	4	0
Suhey	5	12	2.4	6	0
Green	11	38	3.7	6	0
Harbaugh	1	6	6.0	6	0
Bero	2	-4	-2.0	0	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	TKD	TD	LG	Had Int.
Tomczak	18	13	164	0/0	1	26	0
Harbaugh	13	10	186	0/0	3	59	0

PASS RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	LG	TD
Davis	4	79	32	3
Gentry	3	37	18	0
Muster	3	23	11	0
Morris	2	30	17	0
Bero	2	19	16	0
Boso	3	26	8	0
Waddle	1	59	59	1
McKinnon	1	26	26	0
Anderson	1	23	23	0
Thornton	1	13	13	0
Suhey	1	9	9	0
Green	1	6	6	0

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	LG	TD
Gayle	1	7	7	0
Paul	1	4	4	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG
Buford	3	143	47.6	0	0	59

PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	LG	TD
Green	1	1	2	2	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	LG	TD
Green	2	23	12	0
Gentry	2	15	10	0
Taylor	1	29	29	0
Keller	1	19	19	0

FUMBLES	Fum.	Own Rec.	Yds.	TD
Stewart	1	0	0	0

Los Angeles Raiders

RUSHING	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD
Gainer	8	23	2.9	6	0
Porter	6	15	2.5	5	2
Strachan	1	12	12.0	12	0
Mueller	1	8	8.0	8	0
Smith	3	6	2.0	3	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	TKD	TD	LG	Had Int.
Schroeder	22	13	214	1/13	2	78	1
Beuerlein	12	3	73	0/0	1	57	1

PASS RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	LG	TD
Alexander	4	58	38	0
Dyal	3	21	12	1
Fernandez	2	80	57	1
Ware	2	24	13	0
Brown	2	17	13	0
Gault	1	78	78	1
Porter	1	5	5	0
Smith	1	4	4	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG
Gossett	2	92	46	0	0	53

PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	LG	TD
Adams	2	0	30	27	0
Brown	1	0	20	20	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	LG	TD
Adams	3	86	37	0

Brown	2	43	29	0
Lee	1	0	0	0

FUMBLES	Fum.	Own Rec.	Yds.	TD
Schroeder	1	0	0	0
Graves	0	1	0	0

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

(Unofficial)

Chicago Bears

	T	A	SK	YL	INT.	PD	FF
Woolford	6	0	0	0	0	1	0
Duerson	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gayle	1	1	0	0	1	1	0
Jackson	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Stinson	2	0	0	0	0	2	0
Paul	2	0	0	0	1	1	0
Tate	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
Singletary	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pruitt	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jones	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Roper	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rivera	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Perry	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
Shannon	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Johnson	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
Chapura	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dent	1	0	1	13	0	1	1
Hyche	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hampton	1	2	0	0	0	0	0

Los Angeles Raiders

	T	A	SK	YL	INT.	PD	FF
Crudup	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Land	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
McElroy	5	3	0	0	0	0	0
Anderson	2	1	0	0	0	2	0
McDaniel	5	1	0	0	0	0	0
Lee	8	2	0	0	0	0	0
Washington	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Wilson	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Benson	5	2	0	0	0	0	0
Millen	5	2	0	0	0	0	0
Shipp	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Pickel	5	3	0	0	0	0	0
Koch	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Golic	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wise	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
King	5	1	0	0	0	0	0
Townsend	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
Caldwell	2	1	0	0	0	0	0



Vestee Jackson (24) and Donnell Woolford combine on this tackle of a Raiders receiver during first half

action Saturday. (Bear Report photo by Steve Woltmann)

Becker, Adickes among 12 Bears cut

Eight-year veteran tackle Kurt Becker and three-year veterans defensive end Sean Smith and center John Adickes were among 12 players cut by the Bears Monday to get down to the regular-season roster limit of 47 players.

That leaves the Bears with 10 new players on the roster this season, including nine draft choices.

Where there were battles on the roster between veterans and rookies, it was the rookies who won out. The Bears have now added 18 new players to the team in the last two seasons alone.

"I've seen too many teams that got old," head coach Mike Ditka said.

Becker and Adickes lost out to newcomers tackle Dave Watson, guard/center Jerry Fontenot and tackle Chris Dyko.

"It's hard to do these things," Ditka said about cutting the veterans. "I hate to get rid of players with character and (Becker) has a lot of character. I respect that in him and I respect the effort he's given us the last seven years. He'll do fine in life. We thought it was best to go with some of the young people."

Smith and second-year defensive end John Shannon lost out in their battles to rookies Tony Woods and Trace Armstrong.

"We looked at the other guys and didn't see the progress we'd hoped to see," Ditka said.

The suspension of Maurice Douglass opened a spot for safety Lorenzo Lynch, who beat out Todd Krumm for the job.

The Bears surprisingly decided to go with just two quarterbacks, as they released rookie quarterback Brent Snyder. "You only need one," Ditka said.

The Bears have needed more than that in recent years, but they're obviously gambling the two they have can stay healthy.

Ditka said he doesn't anticipate picking up a veteran quarterback on waivers, like Rusty Hilger, Steve Dils or Randy Wright.

Other players cut include running backs



Todd Krumm was one of the second-year players cut by the Bears Monday to get their roster down to the 47-man regular season limit. (Bear Report photo by Steve Woltmann)

Curtis Stewart, Bryan Bero and Brian Taylor, tight end James Coley, linebacker Steve Hyche and wide receiver Tom Waddle.

Wide receiver Glen Kozlowski and linebacker Troy Johnson were kept on the 47-man roster despite suffering injuries in Saturday's game against the Raiders. The Bears are taking advantage of the two-man inactive list with them, rather than place them on injured reserve before the final cut-down and losing them for the entire season.

One of the most competitive positions on the roster was at running back, where rookie Mark Green grabbed one spot and veteran Matt Suhey hung on to his.

"Matt Suhey is on this football team because of his production in the past, plus the fact I need a fullback I can count on if something happens with Brad (Muster)," Ditka said. "I think he'll help Brad immeasurably in understanding things and picking things up."

As for Green, Ditka said, "Of all the young backs, Mark Green has proven he has the right to play in the NFL."

Green and Woods were obtained with the draft picks the Bears got from Philadelphia for their third-round pick. Eagles' coach Buddy Ryan had said he didn't see a keeper with any of the picks the Bears got from him.

Also cut Monday from the Raiders were former Bears Otis Wilson and Mike Richardson. The Bears left both players unprotected in the offseason and told them they wouldn't be invited back this season. They went to the Raiders but couldn't make the team there, either.

Of the 12 players the Bears released Monday, seven are eligible to be signed by the Bears for their six-man developmental squad. There are no position assignments for the developmental squad, so the Bears could try to bring back all the running backs they cut and have a jump on next season. Also, Ditka said Snyder showed enough in camp to warrant getting a chance with the developmental squad.

Given a chance, Davis makes the most of it

By Michael Polzin
Managing Editor

LOS ANGELES — When given a chance, Wendell Davis sure knows how to take advantage of it.

Davis, making his first pro start because Ron Morris had the flu last week, turned in his best performance as a pro Saturday against the Raiders. He caught four passes for 79 yards and three touchdowns to key the Bears' win.

"It's the first time I've done anything since I've been here," he said.

What made Davis' performance even more impressive was that he caught two of his touchdown passes despite getting interfered with by the defender.

"I was surprised to catch one on (Mike) Haynes, who's a great cornerback and a guy I respect," Davis said. "That really boosted my confidence level up a little bit."

Davis isn't counting on starting the regular season opener Sunday against Cincinnati, but Mike Ditka says there's a chance he could. "He might start, he might not," Ditka said.

Mike Tomczak was one of many people who were impressed by Davis' play. "We got a lot of weapons out there and we just have to find the right guy at the right time. And today Wendell Davis was the key guy," Tomczak said.

"He's awesome. He's worked hard all training camp. Hopefully he's going to be around for 16 weeks if he stays healthy because he can catch anywhere from 35 to 50 balls this year."

•INJURY REPORT: Glen Kozlowski was the most seriously injured Bear in Saturday's game. He sprained the knee that he had surgery on after his senior year in college and could be out the first four to six weeks of the season.

Center Jay Hilgenberg hurt his arm in the first half of the game but is expected to be ready for Sunday.

Also, linebacker Troy Johnson separated his shoulder and also could miss the first four weeks of the season.

•QUARTERBACKS MIKE TOMCZAK and Jim Harbaugh both had strong showings in a game that saw the entire offensive unit shine. But the offense wasn't doing anything unusual. "We were pretty basic," Tomczak said. "When you stick to the basics, I guess things click pretty well for you."

A lot of credit for the quarterbacks' performances should go to the offensive line, Tomczak said. "I got pushed a couple times. I didn't get hit too many times," Tomczak said. "You have fun out there anytime everybody's playing well and the camaraderie just kind of gets contagious. It's a fun atmosphere of playing."

Tomczak didn't overlook the importance of the running game, though. "Anytime (our running game) is intact, we're a strong team offensively."

Harbaugh remembered one specific time the offensive line did its job to allow him to get off a touchdown pass to Davis. "The last throw to Wendell was a strong safety blitz and we didn't have enough guys to pick it up. And somebody must have picked up two guys," he said. "I think Matt Suhey got a

block when he wasn't counted on to get a block. That gave me an extra count to get it off to Wendell."

•CORNERBACK DONNELL WOOLFORD got his initiation into the NFL Saturday when Raiders' receiver Willie Gault beat

him for a 78-yard touchdown bomb in the first half.

"It's better now than later," Woolford said. "I learned something from it. Give him a lot of room and let him catch all he wants underneath."



Wide receiver Glen Kozlowski lies on the field after injuring his left knee near the end of the Raiders game Saturday. (Bear Report photo by Steve Woltmann)



Raiders' safety Eddie Anderson celebrates after recovering a fumble by the Bears' Curtis Stewart in the second half of Saturday's game. (Bear Report photo by Steve Woltmann)



Otis Wilson played his first game against the Bears Saturday, making two tackles and assisting on two others. (Bear Report photo by Steve Woltmann)



Fullback Brad Muster had four rushes for 17 yards in the Bears' final tuneup for the regular season Saturday against the Raiders. (Bear Report photo by Steve Woltmann)



The Bear offensive line had its best game of the preseason against the Raiders. Here, tackle Jim Covert provides Mike Tomczak with plenty of pass protection. (Bear Report photo by Steve Woltmann)

Next Week's Opponent

Chicago Bears

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yr.	College
4	Jim Harbaugh	QB	6-3	205	25	3	Michigan
6	Kevin Butler	K	6-1	204	26	5	Georgia
8	Maury Buford	P	6-1	191	29	8	Texas Tech
18	Mike Tomczak	QB	6-1	198	26	5	Ohio State
20	Thomas Sanders	RB	5-11	203	27	5	Texas A&M
21	Donnell Woolford	DB	5-9	187	23	5	Clemson
22	Dave Duerson	S	6-1	212	28	7	Notre Dame
23	Shaun Gayle	S	5-11	194	27	6	Ohio St.
24	Vestee Jackson	CB	6-0	186	25	4	Washington
25	Brad Muster	FB	6-3	231	24	2	Stanford
26	Matt Suhey	FB	5-11	213	31	10	Penn State
29	Dennis Gentry	WR	5-8	180	30	8	Baylor
31	Mark Green	HB	5-11	184	22	2	Notre Dame
32	Lemuel Stinson	DB	5-9	159	23	2	Texas Tech
35	Neal Anderson	RB	5-11	210	24	4	Florida
36	Markus Paul	S	6-2	199	23	3	Syracuse
43	Lorenzo Lynch	DB	5-9	199	26	3	Cal. St.-Sacramento
49	David Tate	DB	6-0	177	24	2	Colorado
50	Mike Singletary	LB	6-0	230	30	9	Baylor
51	Jim Morrissey	LB	6-3	227	26	5	Michigan St.
52	Mickey Pruitt	LB	6-1	206	24	2	Colorado
53	Dante Jones	LB	6-1	236	24	2	Oklahoma
55	John Roper	LB	6-1	228	23	2	Texas A&M
57	Tom Thayer	G	6-4	270	27	5	Notre Dame
59	Ron Rivera	LB	6-3	240	27	6	California
62	Mark Bortz	G	6-6	272	28	7	Iowa
63	Jay Hilgenberg	C	6-3	260	29	9	Iowa
64	Dave Zawatsen	T	6-4	274	23	2	California
65	Tony Woods	DT	6-4	274	23	2	Oklahoma
67	Jerry Fontenot	G	6-3	272	22	2	Texas A&M
68	Chris Dyko	T	6-6	305	23	2	Washington St.
72	William Perry	DT	6-2	330	28	5	Clemson
73	John Wojciechowski	G	6-4	270	25	3	Michigan St.
74	Jim Covert	T	6-4	278	29	7	Pittsburgh
76	Steve McMichael	DT	6-2	268	31	10	Texas
78	Keith Van Horne	T	6-6	283	31	9	USC
80	James Thornton	TE	6-2	242	24	2	Cal. State-Ful.
82	Wendell Davis	WR	5-11	188	23	2	LSU
84	Ron Morris	WR	6-1	195	24	3	SMU
85	Dennis McKinnon	WR	6-1	177	27	6	Florida St.
86	Cap Boso	TE	6-3	240	25	3	Illinois
88	Glen Kozlowski	WR	6-1	205	26	3	BYU
92	Troy Johnson	LB	6-0	236	24	2	Oklahoma
93	Trace Armstrong	DE	6-4	259	23	2	Florida
94	Dick Chapura	DT	6-3	275	25	2	Missouri
95	Richard Dent	DE	6-5	268	28	7	Tennessee St.
99	Dan Hampton	DT	6-5	274	31	11	Arkansas

Injured reserve: DT Steve O'Malley.

Reserved/non-football injury: Maurice Douglass.



Facts and Figures

Kickoff — Noon Central time, Sun., Sept. 10
Site — Soldier Field, Chicago.

Playing surface — Natural grass.

Series history — The Bengals have won two of the three times the teams have met. But the Bears' victory was in the teams' most recent meeting, in 1986. That was a 44-7 trouncing the Bears gave the Bengals in Cincinnati. Before that, the Bengals won in overtime at Soldier Field in 1980, 17-14, and won in 1972 at Soldier Field, 31-13.

Radio-TV coverage — The game will be televised live in Chicago by NBC, WMAQ-TV, channel 5. WGN-Radio (720 AM) and the Bears' Radio Network also will carry the game live.



Bengals' running back Ickey Woods

Cincinnati Bengals

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yr.	College
7	Boomer Esiason	QB	6-5	225	27	6	Maryland
11	Lee Johnson	P/K	6-2	198	26	5	Brigham Young
12	Erik Wilhelm	QB	6-3	201	23	2	Oregon
15	Turk Schonert	QB	6-1	196	31	10	Stanford
18	James Gallery	K	6-1	205	27	2	Minnesota
20	Craig Taylor	RB	5-11	224	23	2	West Virginia
21	James Brooks	RB	5-10	182	29	9	Auburn
22	Eric Thomas	CB	5-11	181	24	3	Tulane
24	Lewis Billups	CB	5-11	190	23	4	North Alabama
27	Barney Bussey	S	6-0	195	26	4	South Carolina St.
29	Rickey Dixon	CB	5-11	181	22	2	Oklahoma
30	Ickey Woods	RB	6-2	232	22	2	UNLV
33	David Fulcher	S	6-3	228	24	4	Arizona St.
35	Chris Barber	S	6-0	190	25	2	North Carolina A&T
36	Stanford Jennings	RB	6-1	205	26	6	Furman
37	Robert Jackson	S	5-10	186	31	8	Central Michigan
41	Solomon Wilcotts	CB	5-11	185	24	3	Colorado
42	Eric Ball	RB	6-2	216	22	2	UCLA
51	Leon White	LB	6-3	245	25	4	Brigham Young
53	Leo Barker	LB	6-2	227	29	6	New Mexico St.
55	Ed Brady	LB	6-2	235	28	6	Illinois
57	Reggie Williams	LB	6-1	232	34	14	Dartmouth
58	Joe Kelly	LB	6-2	231	24	4	Washington
59	Kevin Walker	LB	6-3	238	24	2	Maryland
64	Bruce Kozerski	C	6-4	275	26	6	Holy Cross
65	Max Montoya	G	6-5	275	32	11	UCLA
68	Paul Jetton	G	6-4	288	24	1	Texas
69	Tim Krumrie	NT	6-2	268	26	7	Wis.-Madison
70	Jim Skow	DE	6-3	255	25	4	Nebraska
71	Mike Hammerstein	DE	6-4	270	26	4	Michigan
72	Skip McClendon	DE	6-7	275	24	3	Arizona St.
74	Brian Blados	G	6-5	295	26	6	North Carolina
75	Bruce Reimers	T	6-7	280	28	6	Iowa State
77	Scott Jones	T	6-5	275	23	2	Washington
78	Anthony Munoz	T	6-6	278	30	10	USC
81	Eddie Brown	WR	6-0	185	26	5	Miami, FL
84	Eric Kattus	TE	6-5	235	26	4	Michigan
85	Tim McGee	WR	5-10	175	24	4	Tennessee
86	Carl Parker	WR	6-2	201	23	2	Vanderbilt
87	Jim Riggs	TE	6-5	245	25	3	Clemson
88	Mike Martin	WR	5-10	186	28	7	Illinois
89	Ira Hillary	WR	5-11	190	26	3	South Carolina
91	Carl Zander	LB	6-2	235	25	5	Tennessee
94	Rich Romer	LB	6-3	224	23	2	Union College
96	Natu Tuetagaloa	DE	6-4	255	22	2	California
98	David Grant	NT	6-4	277	23	2	West Virginia
99	Jason Buck	DE	6-5	264	25	3	Brigham Young



Have you seen the new Diet Coke television commercial that features Cincinnati quarterback Boomer Esiason as Goldilocks and Keith Van Horne, Neal Anderson and Dan Hampton as the three bears?

At the end of the spot, the three "bears" are holding Esiason upside down shaking him. You get the feeling that's what the Chicago Bears would love to do Sunday against Esiason and his Bengals in the regular season opener.

The Bengals, coming off a tough loss in the Super Bowl to San Francisco, are looking to get off to another fast start this season, as are the Bears.

This game is especially important for the Bears because it marks the start of the toughest four-week stretch of their schedule. After opening against the Bengals, the Bears play the Vikings at home the following week, then head to Detroit and come back home for a Monday night game against Buddy Ryan's Eagles.

If the Bears come out of that stretch with three wins, they'll have set themselves up well for the rest of the schedule.

It won't be any easy task getting past the

Bengals first. They came just a few seconds away from being last year's Super Bowl champions. Of course, the last time the Bears opened up a season against a Super Bowl team was in 1987, when Mike Tomczak led the Bears to a 34-19 win over the Giants in a Monday night game.

Bengals head coach Sam Wyche now has the task of getting the Bengals one step farther than last season. In the preseason, Wyche was more satisfied with his defense than his offense.

"Our defense is way ahead of our offense," Wyche said during the preseason. "Our defense won our first two games (24-20 over Buffalo and 35-3 over Detroit)."

After the Detroit game Wyche said about his offense, "It was nowhere near good enough for us to go to the playoffs again. Our running game is not carrying its load." The Bengals were averaging just 3 yards a carry midway through the preseason.

When the Bengals attack opponents, they try to do it much like the Bears — work the running game first to set up the passing game.

"I've always believed that you need close to a 50-50 mix in pass plays to running

plays," Wyche said. "We were first in running the ball (in 1988), so obviously the ground game was a big part of our offense."

"But I also think that a passing game can set up the running game, and I'm not so sure that a strong running team will be able to pass the ball, no matter how successful they are."

"Last season, our offense was based on a strong-armed quarterback (Esiason) who could get the ball down the field quickly. We used the run and the run fake very effectively, and as a result we were very explosive at times."

It's that kind of explosiveness that Wyche would like to see again this season.

Defensively the Bengals would like to improve on a decent season last year.

"The defense has been improving steadily," defensive coordinator Dick LeBeau said. "Last year we held up our end of things in terms of helping to win football games. This year we'll be much better."

The defense peaked last year during the playoffs, and LeBeau and Wyche want to see the unit keep moving in that direction.

"Everyone will see the aggressiveness that we had in the closing stretch. But you'll

see it all year," Wyche said. "We can afford to be more aggressive this year than we have in the past because our cover people are better than they've ever been. We can lock on with people and stay with them. And our pass rush is so good that the coverage doesn't have to stay tight for very long because the pass rush is going to get there."

LeBeau expects his defense to be better this year partially because it's a young unit and gained a lot of confidence in last year's playoffs.

"No one scored that much on us in the playoff games and that was very, very important in terms of giving us confidence that we can keep our team in big games," he said. "That kind of confidence is very important to our defense because it's young. The nucleus of this defense is two- and three-year players who should continue to improve for the next four or five years."

One of those young players the Bengals are counting on is 24-year-old strong safety David Fulcher, who played in the Pro Bowl last season. "David's still a young man. I expect him to get better in all kinds of small ways for at least the next three or four years," LeBeau said.

Chicago on offense

OFFENSE

Holder
18 Mike Tomczak
Punt returner
31 Mark Green
Kick returner
29 Dennis Gentry
88 Glen Kozlowski

Kicker
6 Kevin Butler
Punter
8 Maury Buford
Kick center
67 Jerry Fontenot

FB
25 Brad Muster
26 Matt Suhey

QB
18 Mike Tomczak
4 Jim Harbaugh

TB
35 Neal Anderson
20 Thomas Sanders
31 Mark Green

WR
85 Dennis McKinnon
29 Dennis Gentry

TE
80 James Thornton
86 Cap Boso

RT
78 Keith Van Horne
64 Dave Zawatson
73 John Wojciechowski

RG
57 Tom Thayer
73 John Wojciechowski

C
63 Jay Hilgenberg
67 Jerry Fontenot

LG
62 Mark Bortz
67 Jerry Fontenot

LT
74 Jim Covert
68 Chris Dyko

WR
84 Ron Morris
82 Wendell Davis
88 Glen Kozlowski

DEFENSE

LCB
24 Lewis Billups
35 Chris Barber

LE
70 Jim Skow
72 Skip McClendon

NT
98 David Grant
71 Mike Hammerstein

RE
99 Jason Buck
96 Natu Tuatagloa

RCB
22 Eric Thomas
37 Robert Jackson

LOLB
51 Leon White

LILB
91 Carl Zander
55 Ed Brady

RILB
58 Joe Kelly
53 Leo Barker

ROLB
59 Kevin Walker
94 Rich Romer

SS
33 David Fulcher
27 Barney Bussey

FS
29 Rickey Dixon
41 Solomon Wilcotts

Cincinnati on offense

OFFENSE

Punter
11 Lee Johnson
Kicker
18 James Gallery
Holder
15 Turk Schonert

Kick returner
36 Stanford Jennings
89 Ira Hillary
Punt returner
88 Mike Martin
Kick center
68 Paul Jetton

RB
30 Ickey Woods
42 Eric Ball
20 Craig Taylor

QB
7 Boomer Esiason
15 Turk Schonert
12 Eric Wilhelm

RB
21 James Brooks
36 Stanford Jennings

WR
89 Ira Hillary
88 Mike Martin

TE
84 Eric Kattus
87 Jim Riggs

RT
65 Max Montoya

RG
74 Brian Blados

C
68 Paul Jetton

LG
75 Bruce Reimers
74 Brian Blados

LT
78 Anthony Munoz
77 Scott Jones

WR
85 Tim McGee
86 Carl Parker

DEFENSE

LCB
21 Donnell Woolford
32 Lemuel Stinson

LE
93 Trace Armstrong
65 Tony Woods

LT
76 Steve McMichael
94 Dick Chapura

RT
99 Dan Hampton
72 William Perry

RE
95 Richard Dent
65 Tony Woods

RCB
24 Vestee Jackson
43 Lorenzo Lynch

SS
22 Dave Duerson
49 David Tate

LLB
59 Ron Rivera
92 Troy Johnson
55 John Roper

MLB
50 Mike Singletary
53 Dante Jones

RLB
51 Jim Morrissey
52 Mickey Pruitt

FS
23 Shaun Gayle
36 Markus Paul

Bears vs. Cincinnati

WHEN CINCINNATI HAS THE BALL

Esiason was the AFC's highest-rated passer every week and finished with a 97.4 rating. He was the ignition to these numbers: a NFL-high 448 points, 59 touchdowns, 27 rushing touchdowns, 378.6 yards in total offense. The Bengals generated 300 yards in 15 of 20 games.

Pro Bowl running back James Brooks is a dual threat, rushing for 931 yards and eight touchdowns and receiving for 287 yards and six scores. Last season's rookie dancer, Ickey Woods, rushed for 1,066 yards and 15 touchdowns.

Receivers Eddie Brown and Tim McGee could be the fastest pair in the NFL. Tight end Rodney Holman went to the Pro Bowl.

Cincinnati's line, featuring Pro Bowlers Anthony Munoz and Max Montoya, is one of the NFL's top five.

KEY MATCH-UPS

CHICAGO QB MIKE TOMCZAK vs. THE GHOST OF JIM McMAHON: No doubt, Tomczak would've wanted this game on the road. The Bears were always McMahon's team. Not anymore.

CHICAGO RB NEAL ANDERSON vs. CINCINNATI S DAVID FULCHER: Fulcher is a hitter, and if Tomczak has problems throwing, he'll cheat in his run support and key on Anderson.

CHICAGO OTs KEITH VAN HORNE and JIM COVERT vs. CINCINNATI DEs JIM SKOW and JASON BUCK: Tomczak will have enough on his mind and doesn't need the worry of being sandwiched.

CHICAGO DTs STEVE McMICHAEL and DAN HAMPTON vs. CINCINNATI Gs MAX MONTOYA and BRUCE REIMERS: If McMichael and Hampton can dominate the line, it will enable LB Mike Singletary to meet Brooks and Woods at the line. Stopping the Bengals' ground game is the first step toward winning. If the reverse happens and Cincinnati controls the line, Esiason could have all day.

CHICAGO S DAVE DUERSON vs. CINCINNATI TE RODNEY HOLMAN: With Brooks and Woods, and the Bengals' outside speed, Holman is often overlooked. If he is, the Bears will pay.

CHICAGO CB VESTEE JACKSON vs. BENGALS WR EDDIE BROWN: One slip, and it's six.

By JOHN DELCOS

This could be a Super Bowl preview. It could also be the prelude to disaster. When the Chicago Bears open their 70th season Sunday against the Cincinnati Bengals at Soldier Field, it will be a matchup of two of the National Football League's more talented and volatile teams. Each has the capability of winning Super Bowl XXIV in New Orleans. Both are sitting on time bombs that could lay their seasons to waste.

Tick. Tick. Tick.

The Bengals are worried about Boomer Esiason's sore shoulder and the pending story of Stanley Wilson's drug expose'. With a sound Esiason, anything is possible. Without him, the Bengals have no chance.

Cincinnati is a conservative town already ripped apart by the Pete Rose scandal. If Wilson's Penthouse story reveals names — even if it's a lie — it will be a distraction.

The Bengals, who blitzed their way through the AFC and were 34 seconds away from defeating San Francisco in the Super Bowl, will also find themselves the target on everyone's schedule.

"We entered the 1988 season with our backs to the wall and with much to prove, fans to regain, pride to restore, and jobs to save," said Bengals coach Sam Wyche. "This year has a different question to be answered: How good are we, and do we have the staying power that the real good teams have? The mistake some teams make following a Super Bowl appearance is assuming a repeat. It has to be earned every year. We're in for the challenge of our lives."

The Bears are faced with their own challenges — the biggest being trying to survive without quarterback Jim McMahon, who was traded to San Diego. That leaves the season in the inexperienced hands of Mike Tomczak.

Chicago also has to prove it's still hungry. The Bears were routed by the 49ers in the NFC Championship game and can't assume they'll get that far this year. It's something coach Mike Ditka made clear at the start of training camp.

"The one thing I told them is that last year we weren't good enough," Ditka said. "They don't give any accolades for finishing second. Our division is very competitive. We've fared well against those teams, but it hasn't been easy and they're all young teams on the rise."

WHEN CHICAGO HAS THE BALL

With the trading of McMahon, Tomczak controls the attack. He's 15-3 as a starter, but for the first time doesn't have McMahon as a safety net. The pressure he'll experience this year is different than anything he has felt before. How he handles it is the key to the season.

As always, the offense is geared around the run. Pro Bowler Neal Anderson has escaped Walter Payton's shadow and is judged on his own merits. Brad Muster, last year's first-round pick, will be featured more.

The Bears will rotate Dennis McKinnon, Dennis Gentry, Ron Morris and Wendell Davis. None have Willie Gault's explosiveness, but each should generate between 30 and 45 receptions.

The offensive line, headed by four-time Pro Bowl C Jay Hilgenberg and OTs Jim Covert and Keith Van Horne, is strong but is getting older and subject to injuries.

EXTRA POINTS

LAST MEETING: In 1986 at Cincinnati, Jim McMahon threw three touchdowns and ran for another to key a 44-7 rout.

COACHES: Chicago's Mike Ditka, 8th year, has a career record of 78-35, including 5-2 in season openers. Cincinnati's Sam Wyche, 6th year, has a career record of 43-39, including 2-3 in season openers.

1988 RECORDS: Both teams were 12-4.

OPENING DAY RECORDS: Chicago is 31-24-1 (.564), including five straight wins. Cincinnati is 11-10 (.524), including two straight wins.

CHICAGO'S 1988 NFC RANKINGS: Offense — 8th (2nd rush, 12th pass). Defense — 2nd (1st rush, 4th pass). Takeaway/Giveaway ratio: 35/34.

CHICAGO'S 1988 TEAM LEADERS: Rushing — Neal Anderson (249 carries, 1,106 yards, 12 TDs). Passing — Jim McMahon (114-of-192 for 1,346 yards, 6 TDs, 7 INT). Receiving — Dennis McKinnon (45 receptions, 704 yards, 3 TDs). Sacks — Steve McMichael (11.5).

CINCINNATI'S 1988 AFC RANKINGS: Offense — 1st (1st rush, 4th pass). Defense — 6th (6th rush, 6th pass). Takeaway/Giveaway ratio: 36/27.

CINCINNATI'S 1988 TEAM LEADERS: Rushing — Ickey Woods (203 carries, 1,066 yards, 15 TDs). Passing — Boomer Esiason (223-of-388 for 3,572 yards, 28 TDs, 14 INT). Receiving — Eddie Brown (53 receptions, 1,273 yards, 9 TDs). Sacks — Jim Skow (9.5).



Cincinnati wide receiver Eddie Brown

The Official Call

No such thing as a lateral

Q1: Please define a lateral. We always used the term on the playground, but the announcers on TV games don't. R.B. Minneapolis, MN

JEFFREY LEAF



A1: In organized football, there is no such thing as a lateral. Both the NFL and the NCAA only have a Forward Pass and a Backward Pass. What we called a 'lateral' is really a Backward Pass. The actual determination of forward or backward is based on whether the pass is first touched in front of or behind the point from which it was thrown.

Q2: How long does protection last for a punt receiver who signals for a fair catch? W.M. Chicago, IL

A2: In the NFL, a punt receiver who signals for a fair catch must be given an unobstructed path to catch the kick. The kicking team cannot interfere with the receiver until the kick hits the ground. If the receiver muffs the punt, he is still protected and cannot be

hit until the ball hits the ground.

The NCAA rule is similar to the NFL. The protection ends for the NCAA punt receiver as soon as he touches the ball. If he muffs the ball, he loses his protection and can be legally blocked.

Q3: I was watching a college game on TV. The punter started running. He got three yards beyond the line of scrimmage and then kicked the ball. But all of the officials let him get away with it. Not one of them threw a flag. I can't believe the officials didn't miss that one. What is the penalty for that foul in the NFL? R.R. San Diego, CA

A3: There is no penalty for this in the NFL. There is no requirement in the NFL or the NCAA rules for the ball to be kicked from behind the line of scrimmage as long as there has been no change of team possession. To carry this a step farther, if the kicker could drop kick the ball, he could score a field goal with the kick.

Q4: In a Dallas-Giants game last year, there was a controversy on the opening kick-off about a safety call. They were talking about kicks, muffs and possession, but I didn't understand it all. Can you explain it? P.F. Newark, NJ

A4: Whether a ball dead in the end zone is a touchback or a safety is determined by which team put the ball in the end zone. The question on this particular play was, did the returner gain possession and fumble the ball into the end zone or did he just muff (touch

but not gain possession) the kick? The kick does not end until possession is gained. So, if the kick was only muffed, it would still be a kick and downing it in the end zone would be a touchback.

In support of the officials, it was not as clearly a bad call as the media might think. The Referee was the one on the play. He believed he saw the receiver gain possession, then fumble the ball. The returner's body was between the Referee and the ball, so Referee could not see it clearly. The returner acted as if he fumbled the ball into the end zone rather than muffed the kick. He started running with the ball like a man who knew it was his fault the ball was in the end zone and he had to get it out. This action strengthens the Referee's belief that the returner did gain possession. The call was based on all the information available to the Referee at the time.

P1: Fourth down and 5 from the Kicking team's 22-yard line. The punt is partially blocked, but goes beyond the line of scrimmage. No. 44 of the Receiving team muffs the rolling kick. The muff forces the ball to go behind the original line of scrimmage. The punter picks up the ball at the 18 yard line and runs to the 47 where he is tackled.

NFL ruling: Kicking team's ball first-and-10 from the 47-yard line.

NCAA ruling: Kicking team's ball first-and-10 from the 18-yard line. The ball is dead when recovered.

P2: A defensive lineman sticks his foot out and contacts the runner below the knee.

NFL ruling: Illegal Use of Body. Penalize the Defense 10 yards.

NCAA ruling: Legal play. This would be a foul if it was anyone else but the runner. Jeffrey Leaf is an official and rules interpreter for the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference and a member of the National Association of Sports Officials.

You can direct your questions on football rules and officiating to him by writing to 'The Official Call', P.O. Box 773, Annandale, VA 22003.

BEARS PACKAGES 1989

- ★ ~~Detroit~~ **SOLD OUT** 23-24
- ★ Tampa Bay - Oct. 6-9
- ★ Washington - Nov. 24-27
- ★ Minnesota - Dec. 2-4

All packages include: Transportation, hotel, transfers, game ticket & much more!
FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:



VANGUARD

tour service, Inc

P.O. Box 5377 • Lansing, IL 60438
(312) 895-0060 • (800) 383-0061

OFFICIAL MONDAY NITE FOOTBALL SITES

WATCH THE GAMES WITH US

CHICAGO SPORTS
PROFILES MAGAZINE

On Newsstands
Everywhere, Or
Call: 1-800-828-FANS

MILWAUKEE ROAD HOUSE
(Libertyville)

Brought To You By:

**BUD
LIGHT**

and

**Chicago
Sun-Times**

ALCOCKS - "We Rock"
(411 S. Wells)

SLUGGERS
(Vernon Hills)

BENNIGANS
(Chicago Ridge)

RANALLIS
(Chicago)

SNUGGERY
(Mt. Prospect)

DUFFYS
(Chicago)

HOULIHANS
(Oak Brook)

McGEES
(Chicago)

BENNIGANS
(Madison Ave.)

BENNIGANS
(North Michigan Ave.)

RANALLIS
(Lincoln Park)

SLUGGERS
(Chicago)

SNUGGERY
(Schaumburg)

CHAMPIONS
(O'Hare Marriott)

HOULIHANS
(Skokie)

BENNIGANS
(South Michigan Ave.)

COUNTRYSIDE
(Des Plaines)

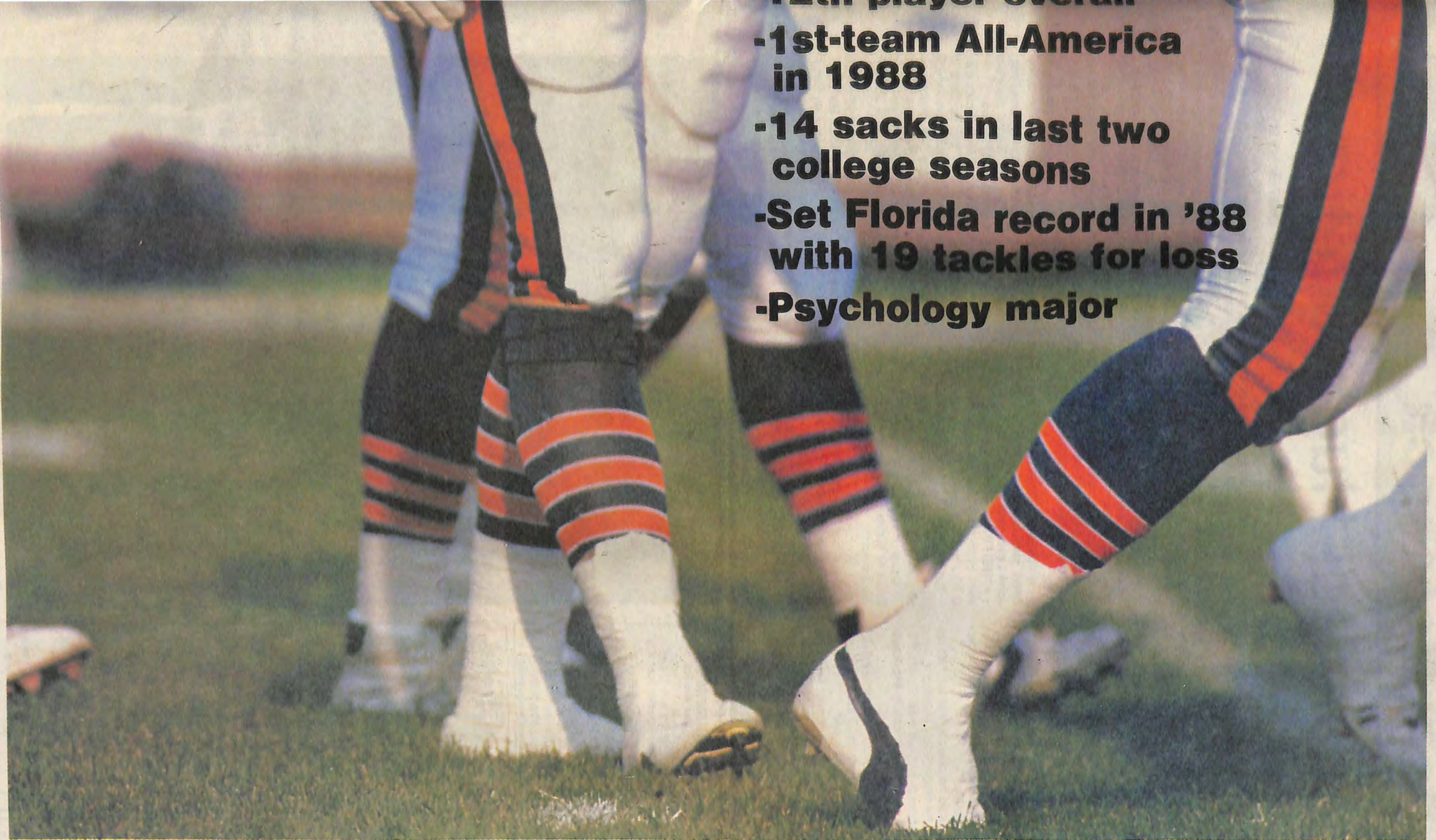
BENNIGANS
(Woodridge)

A photograph of Chicago Bears player Trace Armstrong in action. He is wearing a dark blue jersey with the number 93 in white with red outlines. He is also wearing a blue helmet with a red 'C' logo and a Riddell brand name. He is wearing white pants with blue and red stripes on the side. He is wearing white gloves with a red 'C' logo. He is looking down and to the right. In the background, another player in a blue jersey with the number 5 is visible. To the right, another player in a blue jersey with the number 6 is visible. The background is a blurred stadium scene.

Trace Armstrong

-Drafted in 1st round,

- 12th player overall
- 1st-team All-America in 1988
 - 14 sacks in last two college seasons
 - Set Florida record in '88 with 19 tackles for loss
 - Psychology major



BEAR REPORT

Bear Notebook

Douglass suspended; Hughes retires

Defensive back **Maurice Douglass**, suspended last week for 30 days by the NFL for violating its anabolic steroids policy, is considering appealing the ruling to commissioner **Pete Rozelle**.

Douglass, who said he was shocked by the results of his steroids test, said he never knowingly took steroids in his life.

Douglass said he took four injections of a drug last January to aid the healing of his injured wrist but he didn't know the drug was a steroid. He said he got the drug from a person he worked out with and knew for two years. Douglass said the friend didn't know it was a steroid, either.

Douglass was waiting to find out if a steroid test he took on the same day for the NFLPA comes back with different results. If it does, he probably will fight the suspension.

"I've never, to my knowledge, taken an anabolic steroid," Douglass said. "In January, I had taken something that I thought wasn't a steroid. I didn't think it was an anabolic steroid as far as an enhancer, as far as performance, because I hadn't gotten any bigger or any strength or any speed from it."

"I've never been on (steroids) before in my life. I didn't have any use for it then and I have no use for it now. This is really a shock to me."

As it stands now, Douglass will not be eligible to return to the Bears until after their game against the Lions Sept. 24. He was placed on the team's Reserve/Non-Football Injury list.

With the Bears' secondary already a

crowded area, Douglass' spot on the roster may not be open for him when he's eligible to return.

"Certainly there is a chance Mo Douglass won't be here," player personnel director **Bill Tobin** said. "There's a chance he will be, also."

Head coach **Mike Ditka** said, "I think you wait four weeks and find out what's going on. It depends on how this football team is doing and who we end up keeping. Mo has played very well for us at times. I've always liked Mo. I still like Mo."

Douglass had been starting in the nickel defense. His spot now will be taken over by **Lemuel Stinson**.

Ditka and team president **Michael McCaskey** said they believed Douglass that he didn't intentionally take any steroids.

•**ASSISTANT HEAD COACH Ed Hughes** announced his retirement last week, effective immediately.

Hughes said he realized the fun had left the job, so he immediately decided to hang up his clipboard. Hughes was replaced by former Detroit assistant coach **Vic Rapp**, who will coach the receivers.

"It came time after 30 years that I didn't enjoy coaching anymore. I thought it was time to retire," Hughes said.

His retirement comes just after the Bears traded **Jim McMahon** to the Chargers. Hughes always was a staunch supporter of McMahon, but he said that had nothing to do with his decision.

It's possible Hughes won't be a stranger

around Halas Hall. He'll likely be hired by the Bears as a consultant, Ditka said. Hughes would help out breaking down game films and making suggestions for the game plan.

During the off-season, Hughes lost his title of offensive coordinator to **Greg Landry** and became assistant head coach. What that meant was Landry took over coaching the quarterbacks and Hughes switched to receivers.

Rapp was most recently an assistant coach with the Lions. Before that he worked for the Bucs, Rams and Oilers. He was head coach of the British Columbia Lions of the Canadian Football League from 1977 to 1982.

He's coached with several members of the Bears' staff, including Bill and Vince Tobin, **John Levra** and **Jim LaRue**.

•**THE FIRST CUTS WERE MADE** last week by the Bears to get their roster down to 60 players.

The Bears cut 17 players and placed one player on injured reserve to get to the 60-man limit.

Placed on injured reserve was linebacker **Steve O'Malley**. He'll be ineligible to play this season.

Those cut include draft picks **George Streeter**, **Joe Nelms**, **Fred Weygand**, **Byron Sanders**, **Greg Gilbert** and **LaSalle Harper**, and free agents **John Budde**, **Don Shrader**, **Mike Sellar**, **John Kropke**, **Tony Buford**, **Mike Husar**, **Sammie Archer**, **Alex Armenteros**, **Kent Sullivan**, **Randy Marri-**

ot and **Garrett Limbrick**.

Though he had harsh words for his team after the Kansas City game, Ditka said the cuts were still hard to make.

"Maybe it would be easy for another guy to do," Ditka said. "You can't be impersonal. You can't not have feelings. I mean, these kids are good kids. We've had these kids since mini-camp. You get to know them, you get to like them. They don't think you know them, but I know all of them. I know what they are doing, what their shortcomings are, what their pluses are. A lot of them understand it well, that this was an opportunity that comes and goes."

Sanders, the brother of Detroit's top pick **Barry Sanders**, had decided to leave Northwestern with a year of eligibility remaining. Despite getting cut by the Bears, Sanders said he doesn't regret that decision.

One of the surprises in the first cuts was that **Sullivan**, one of only two punters in camp, was cut. That just about gave the job to **Maury Buford**, unless the Bears see another punter they like on the waiver wires.

"Ditka told me he did it Monday so I could have a chance to catch on (with another team)," Sullivan said.

•**LINEBACKERS JIM MORRISSEY AND Mickey Pruitt** returned to practice last week, though neither was expected to play Saturday against the Raiders. **Dante Jones** was expected to start at outside linebacker Saturday for the second game in a row.

Ron Morris missed practice Wednesday because of the flu.



Bears' defensive back Maurice Douglass, suspended last week for failing a steroids test, is considering challenging his 30-day ban. (Bear Report photo by Steve Woltmann)

Recommended by:
Chicago Tribune, Sun Times, Chicago Magazine, Edward R. Brooks' "Gourmet on the Go", Sherman Kaplan, WBBM

AUTHENTIC ENTERTAINMENT MARIACHI

GREAT La Carusta

1119 W. Webster
Chicago, IL 60614
975-9667

MEXICAN FOOD

La Terraza

2603 N. Halsted
Chicago, IL 60610
871-8841

Los Maquyes

750 Chicago Ave.
Evanston, IL 60202
328-3011

The Patio Restaurants Inc.
Hours: Mon. thru Sat.
10:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.
Sun. 10:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
Barbeque Ribs Our Specialty

The Patio Restaurant
7110 W. 159th
Orland Park, Illinois
Phone (312) 429-7575

The Patio Restaurant
9115 South Harlem
Bridgeview, Illinois
312-598-2099
Mention Chicago Bears

The Parthenon RESTAURANT

Voted One of Chicago's Top Ten Restaurants

Featuring the finest in authentic Greek dining in relaxed and friendly surroundings.

Our waiters will be happy to assist you in selecting from our extensive menu.

Your Hosts:
Chris and Bill Liakouras
Gregory Karabis

314 South Halsted Street
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60606
(312) 726-2407

In the Heart of Greek Town
Open daily 11 a.m.-2 a.m.
Free Parking
Credit Cards

Hampton nears end of career

Lineman says two more seasons will be enough

By Jerry Bonkowski

Attention Bears director of personnel Bill Tobin and head coach Mike Ditka: be forewarned that you have two years left to do the impossible — find a replacement for defensive tackle (and occasional defensive end) Dan Hampton.

Yes, the final countdown for the long, lanky, lean and mean No. 99 is underway. He will officially hang up his equipment for the last time at the end of the 1990 season, a season he hopes ends with a Super Bowl triumph.

"Twelve years will be more than enough for this poor boy," said Hampton. "By that time, I'll be ready to get out because my body will have taken just about all it can."

"And, usually, at that particular point of your career, it's either you walk away or they kick you out. I don't want to hang around if I can't get it done anymore."

Hampton will be 34 when he calls it quits. From there, his career plans are up in the air.

There's a possibility of becoming a TV analyst (he currently works part-time for WGN-TV and SportsChannel in Chicago), or perhaps opening a Chicago-area car dealership, or maybe returning home to Cabot, Ark. to open some type of business.

"I don't know what the so-called 'after-life' holds, but I'm getting ready for it," said Hampton.

While the direction Hampton's after-football life will take is still unsure, he's dead certain about what he wants to accomplish with the playing time he has left.

"The team's only goal this year is the Super Bowl," said Hampton. "Winning the division and all that other stuff is secondary. We want to win the Super Bowl again. That's my only goal. Other things may have meant something to me five or 10 years ago, but just going to the Super Bowl this year means it all."

That Hampton will play two more seasons for the Bears (including the upcoming 1989 campaign) is almost a near-miracle in itself.

After all, how many men would be willing to play in constant pain every day? How many would be willing to subject their knees to not only constant torture on the playing field, but also off-season surgery?

Hampton has done all that, and with nary a word of complaint. After a game, he's bruised black and blue and sometimes in such agony that he just climbs into bed, like a bear who's licking his wounds.

"I don't think you'll find a harder, more devoted worker than Dan," Ditka says. "Even when he's hurt bad enough that it would keep another guy out of a game, he just blocks it out of his mind and goes back out there because he wants to win so much. Reminds me of somebody else I know (Ditka himself)."

Hampton attributes his 110 percent playing attitude to focusing on just one thing — being the best on the field, while blocking out any type of problem, such as pain and injury.

"I think a lot of it has to do with just attitude," said Hampton. "I have to think it's some type of insecurity. I really feel like I'm missing out if I'm not a part of playing on Sunday. I really don't want to miss that."

"It's very important to the team and it's very important to me that I play. You just block the pain out of your head. It's not that hard to do. You see people walk over hot coals — it's a mind over matter type of thing."

Still, the four-time Pro Bowl veteran (1980, 1982, 1984 and 1985) shrugs off the pain and off-season rehab work as merely a price to pay if one wants to continue to be one of the game's best, which Hampton is without a doubt.

While players slow down as they get older, Hampton doesn't. He just continues to play



Dan Hampton, entering his 11th season with the Bears as one of their key players on the defensive line, is considering retirement in a couple years. (Bear Report photo by Steve Wolfmann)

some of the best football seen anywhere in the National Football League.

Since being chosen as the fourth overall pick in the 1979 draft out of the University of Arkansas, Hampton has been dominating, overpowering, one of the best at his position.

"The guy's an All-Pro; he'll be in the Hall of Fame when it's all over," says the man who is usually next to Hampton on the defensive line, tackle Steve McMichael.

Hampton's versatility is evident both on and off the field. Not only is he able to change gears and switch from defensive tackle to defensive end and vice versa when the situation dictates, he's also a multi-dimensional person out of uniform.

While wife Terry (the couple is childless now, but planning a family sometime in the near future) is the most important part of Hampton's life, this is a man who's not a dumb jock.

Hampton has a multitude of interests, par-

ticularly in music. He's an accomplished guitar player who's sat in with a number of groups, including well-known country singer Tanya Tucker.

About three years ago, Hampton helped form a band of his own, the Chicago Six, made up of current (Dave Duerson, Shaun Gayle and Hampton) and former Bears players (Otis Wilson), as well as former Chicago Blackhawk hockey players Curt Fraser and Gary Nylund.

The six-man band has played in various venues around Chicagoland as well as the East Coast and has plans on playing future gigs in Las Vegas and Los Angeles if schedules can be worked out.

"I really wanted to do something like this for a long time," said Hampton. "This is almost like a little dream of mine, to get to play in a band again (he played in one in his home of Little Rock, Ark. from age 13 to 20). I just had a world of fun with it."

Music isn't just an idle off-field pursuit for Hampton. It's just behind football in Hampton's list of priorities.

When he wants to relax after a game or try and get his mind off a particularly bad loss, Hampton heads to the Bear den in his north suburban Chicago home, plugs in his guitar and strums his problems away, oftentimes for hours at a time.

"He uses his guitar as a kind of escape," Terry said. "If he's nervous before a game or upset or happy afterwards, he goes straight to his guitar. There's nothing he'd rather be doing, other than playing football, of course."

Hampton is accomplished on several instruments, as well as being a not-too-shabby singer.

"Dan's always singin' in the shower, so I knew he had a good voice," said teammate and bandmate Dave Duerson.

Hampton is just as serious about his musical pursuit and taste as he is about playing football.

"I've just got a deep love for music. It's a very big part of my life. I think there's two kinds of music — good music and bad music. I listen to Verdi, Mozart, Jerry Jeff Walker and Led Zeppelin. I listen to it all."

"Music has been scientifically proven that it eases anxiety, it's a tension release and it soothes you. It's one of the top things you can use to motivate yourself."

Trying to get to know the real Dan Hampton isn't always easy. He's intense and proud, outgoing but shy, seemingly standoffish at times (which wife Terry says actually is part shyness) and totally dedicated to whatever he is doing, be it his on-field position, his off-field music playing or his marriage.

Still, Hampton remains somewhat of a mystery personality-wise. Sort of a mixed-bag, he admits.

"I'm a very sensitive person, but also a very sarcastic person in the same sense," he says. "I give a lot of nicknames, make a lot of cutting remarks."

"I guess I'd have to say I'm a contradiction. Some people are true to form in one way — they may be loud or soft-spoken, proud or egotistical. I just can't put a finger on it or be only one thing."

Adds Terry, "Off the field, Dan has an incredibly open mind. He's vivacious, sort of a nut. But on the field, I do believe he has tunnel vision. All he's thinking about on the field is football, whereas he has tons of interests off the field. He's definitely a man of the '80's."

Dan's on-field style of play — hard-nosed, tough, bone-crunching — is an off-shoot of his philosophy of life. It's a "give it all you've got, your best shot every time" kind of thing.

"I sort of have a fatalistic attitude," he claims. "I just want to have as much fun as I possibly can, right now, while I'm around."

"And whatever I do, I try to do it the best I can. If it's not good enough, I'm not going to worry about it because it's the best I can do."

Part of his fatalistic outlook on life can be traced to his father's death when Dan was a young boy in Cabot, Ark. It was a devastating blow to a son who was completely devoted to and who clearly idolized his father.

"I'm a very short-term kind of person," he said. "I want to try and do as much as I can in the time I have. You never know when your time will be up and it's time to go."

"My 10 years with the Bears have been a roller-coaster in a sense. Even though I was a high draft pick, I never thought I'd play more than five years in the pros. But I've had the good fortune to be successful at it."

"I've met good friends, made some good money and done quite a few things that very few people have the opportunity to do. It's been a very satisfying feeling."

Central Issues

by John Delcos

Fontes wants a solid attitude



Detroit Lions

1988 RECORD: 4-12

1988 NFC RANKINGS: Offense — 14th (14th rush, 14th pass). Defense — 11th (12th rush, 6th pass). Takeaway/Giveaway ratio: 36/33.

1988 TEAM LEADERS: Rushing — Gary James (182 carries, 552 yards, 5 TDs). Passing — Rusty Hilger (126-of-306 for 1,558 yards, 7 TDs, 12 INT). Receiving — Pete Mandley (44 receptions, 617 yards, 3 TDs). Sacks — Mike Cofer (12).

COACH: Wayne Fontes, 2nd year, with a 2-3 career record.

FONTES SPEAKS: "I don't expect to work miracles. It's going to take time and more players for the Lions to win consistently. But I can assure there will be no waiting on the right attitude. The attitude is the foundation. You must have a solid foundation or eventually you'll crumble."

OFFENSIVE OVERVIEW: Rookie Rodney Peete could start at quarterback in coordinator Mouse Davis' run-and-shoot attack, which features four receivers. WRs Pete Mandley and Jeff Chadwick are proven, the rest are questions. The line is weak, and RB Barry Sanders was a holdout as of last weekend.

DEFENSIVE OVERVIEW: With LBs Cofer and Chris Spielman, and S Bennie Blades, the Lions have a respectable core. Detroit only had 15 interceptions last season, and excluding Cofer, put little pressure on the quarterback.

THIS WEEK: Phoenix. Lions lead series, 25-15-5. Last meeting: The teams split in 1980, with Detroit winning 20-7 at home and the Cardinals winning 24-23 in St. Louis.

OPENING DAY RECORD: 30-24-2 (.556).



Green Bay Packers

1988 RECORD: 4-12

1988 NFC RANKINGS: Offense — 12th (13th rush, 9th pass). Defense — 4th (13th rush, 2nd pass). Takeaway/Giveaway ratio: 41/50.

1988 TEAM LEADERS: Rushing — Brent Fullwood (101 carries, 483 yards, 7 TDs). Passing — Don Majkowski (178-of-336 for 2,119 yards, 9 TDs, 11 INT). Receiving — Sterling Sharpe (55 receptions, 791 yards, 3 TDs). Sacks — Tim Harris (13.5).

COACH: Lindy Infante, 2nd year, with a 4-12 career record.

INFANTE SPEAKS: "We must have a quarterback step forward and make a statement that he's going to be the guy to lead us into the future. For the last couple of years here, this has been a two-quarterback team and I don't think that's healthy."

OFFENSIVE OVERVIEW: None of the five passers Infante brought to camp made that statement. With WRs Sharpe, Walter Stanley and Phil Epps, the Packers have good outside speed. Running back is wide open. First-round OT Tony Mandarich was a holdout as of the weekend. It's not a promising situation.

DEFENSIVE OVERVIEW: Under coordinator Hank Bullough, the Packers ranked seventh last year overall, their highest finish since 1974. They were the only team not to allow a 100-yard game to a receiver. However, the flip side is teams were usually so far ahead that they kept the ball on the ground.

THIS WEEK: Tampa Bay. Packers lead series, 10-9-1. Last meeting: Tampa Bay swept last year, winning 13-10 on the road and 27-24 on the road.

OPENING DAY RECORD: 28-25-3 (.528), including four straight defeats.



Minnesota Vikings

1988 RECORD: 11-5

1988 NFC RANKINGS: Offense — 5th (9th rush, 3rd pass). Defense — 1st (4th rush, 1st pass). Takeaway/Giveaway ratio: 53/30.

1988 TEAM LEADERS: Rushing — Darin Nelson (112 carries, 380 yards, 1 TD). Passing — Wade Wilson (204-of-332 for 2,746 yards, 15 TDs, 9 INT). Receiving — Anthony Carter (72 receptions, 1,225 yards, 6 TDs). Sacks — Chris Doleman and Keith Millard (8).

COACH: Jerry Burns, 4th year, with a 31-21 career record, including 1-2 in season openers.

BURNS SPEAKS: "Our whole emphasis and focus for 1989 is on winning the Central Division. We've been to the playoffs the past two years, both times as a wild card, so I don't think there's any question we are one of the top teams in football. We're no longer a team on the rise. We're there."

OFFENSIVE OVERVIEW: For the first time, Pro Bowl QB Wilson goes into camp as the uncontested starter. Nelson and D.J.

Dozier had off-years in 1988. Carter ended his holdout, but isn't in shape to start the season. Pro Bowl TE Steve Jordan was a holdout as of the weekend. Headed by Pro Bowl OT Jerry Zimmerman, the line is strong.

DEFENSIVE OVERVIEW: The Vikings have five Pro Bowlers: Millard, Doleman, S Joey Browner, LB Scott Studwell and CB Carl Lee. Still, the Vikings upgraded by signing ex-Cardinal DE Curtis Greer and trading for LB Mike Merriweather from Pittsburgh.

THIS WEEK: Houston. Series tied, 2-2. Last meeting: At Houston 23, Minnesota 10, in 1986.

OPENING DAY RECORD: 16-11-2 (.593), the second best mark in the NFC (behind Dallas) and fourth overall.



Tampa Bay Buccaneers

1988 RECORD: 5-11

1988 NFC RANKINGS: Offense — 10th (10th rush, 8th pass). Defense — 8th (2nd rush, 13th pass). Takeaway/Giveaway ratio: 33/52.

1988 TEAM LEADERS: Rushing — Lars

Tate (122 carries, 467 yards, 7 TDs). Passing — Vinny Testaverde (222-of-466 for 3,240 yards, 13 TDs, 35 INT). Receiving — Bruce Hill (58 receptions, 1,040 yards, 9 TDs). Sacks — Ron Holmes (4).

COACH: Ray Perkins, 7th year (3rd with Bucs), with a 33-57 record, including 2-4 in season openers.

PERKINS SPEAKS: "I believe in a program's third year, whether in college or the pros, you should be prepared to win. I believe we are on schedule. There is a lot of work yet to be done, but the improvement made is very real."

OFFENSIVE OVERVIEW: Testaverde has been more fizzle than flash in two years. RBs Tate and William Howard are coming off solid rookie seasons, and James Wilder still has his moments. WRs Hill and Mark Carrier combined for 2,010 yards and 14 TDs last year. The line is young, but improving.

DEFENSIVE OVERVIEW: Holmes wants out and the Bucs are willing to deal. First-round LB Broderick Thomas will make a difference, but won't be a franchise player in the Lawrence Taylor mold. S Harry Hamilton had six of the Buccaneers' 21 interceptions.

THIS WEEK: At Green Bay. Packers lead series, 10-9-1. Last meeting: Tampa Bay swept last year, winning 13-10 on the road and 27-24 on the road.

OPENING DAY RECORD: 4-9 (.308), including five straight losses.

THE ORIGINAL BEAR PRIDE SHIRT

NEW
Matching
CAPS
With Logo

ONLY
\$6.95



LONG SLEEVE JOGGING SHIRT — TRADITIONAL BEAR COLORS
3 color, dark navy shirts, orange letters, white highlights, quality shirts.

SHOW YOUR TEAM SPIRIT, ALL YEAR! ORDER TODAY FOR FAST DELIVERY

ITEMS ORDERED	Size	Quantity
<input type="checkbox"/> T-Shirts.....\$9.95 EA.	Small	
<input type="checkbox"/> Jogging Shirts.....\$12.95 EA.	Medium	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sweat Shirts.....\$15.95 EA.	Large	
<input type="checkbox"/> Matching Sweat Pants With Logo \$16.95 EA.	Extra Large	

Qty. _____ CAPS with Logo.....\$6.95 EA. (ONE SIZE FITS ALL)

PLUS \$1.65 EACH ITEM POSTAGE AND HANDLING

Qty. _____ Bumper Stickers (I Bleed Bear Blood)99¢ ea.

Mail check or money order to:

BEAR PRIDE
P.O. Box 522
Monroe, WI 53566

Please allow 2-3 weeks for delivery

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

24 HOUR SERVICE ANY OCCASION

- PROFESSIONAL CHAUFFEURS
- STRETCHED CADILLAC, LINCOLN
- CORPORATE RATES AVAILABLE
- REASONABLE RATES



ALEPH LIMOUSINE

"Serving you in Comfort and Style"



Features Include:
Color TV, AM/FM Cassette Stereo, VCR, Bar, Telephone

470-1392

SKOKIE, ILL. TOLL FREE 1-800-356-0369

NFL needs year-round testing

Now that it has suspended 13 players for using anabolic steroids, the NFL no doubt will want you to believe that it didn't have much of a steroid problem after all. Thirteen bad apples in a barrel of more than 1,700? Not bad, especially when the 13 scoundrels have been rooted out of the game until they're clean. Dan Dierdorf, an offensive lineman who should know better, already was spewing that sort of garbage on Monday Night Football the day before the suspensions were announced.

KEVIN LAMB



Maybe steroid use was that sporadic when Dierdorf played, through 1983. When Bears tackle Keith Van Horne was in college through 1980, he said, "Hardly anybody was taking them. But it's changed. Now it's in the high schools and colleges, too, and a lot of people are taking them."

Steve Courson, an admitted steroid user in the '70s and early '80s who needs a heart transplant because of it, has estimated that 50 percent of offensive linemen use the muscle-building drugs, which is 15 percent of the NFL just at one position. Other players' estimates have been as high as 50 percent of the league.

The NFL still has a steroids problem. And it will continue to have a steroids problem until it has unscheduled, year-round testing for steroids.

It can test more liberally for steroids without the civil liberties problems of testing for street drugs because detection of steroids doesn't make a player a criminal. It just makes him a cheater.

In the context of athletics, cheating is worse. All drug users hurt themselves. Only steroids users hurt their opponents, too.

Steroids worst drug in football

Objectionable as they are, cocaine and marijuana don't help their users injure clean players. Steroids do.

Cocaine and marijuana don't give their users unfair advantages in competing for jobs and competing in games. Steroids do.

Steroids undermine the essential purpose of any league, which is to keep the playing field level. Until steroids are out of the NFL, it cannot guarantee its fans or its teams that its competition is fair.

"They worry about fixing games," Bears defensive tackle Dan Hampton said. "That's what they're scared drug users will do. Well, steroids can affect the game more than anything else."

An intelligent player doesn't want to use steroids. They are dangerous. Their long-range damage to the heart, liver and testicles have been well documented, and they exact a short-term price, too. A steroid user increases his chances of injury even as he makes himself bigger and stronger. His muscles can become strong enough to exert force his joints can't support. "He's not even being fair to himself," Van Horne said.

But that intelligent player, in deciding not to use steroids in a league where others do, risks losing his job to someone who's artificially bigger and stronger. He risks being in-



Offensive linemen Jay Hilgenberg (left) and Keith Van Horne don't welcome the advantage steroids give other players. Van Horne said steroids weren't common when he was in college, though they are now. (Bear Report photo by Steve Woltmann)

jured by players whose unnatural speed and size has made the game increasingly hazardous.

His team won't encourage him to make the right choice, not beyond lip service. It's a bottom-line business. Coaches like bigger, stronger and faster players, and, whatever they say, don't usually care how their players got bigger and stronger and faster. Staying off steroids becomes less simple than the answers of common sense and fair play.

Other players get left behind

"It was almost to the point that you either start taking them or you're going to be left in the starting blocks," Hampton said. "I didn't like to see that. You talk about peer pressure, this was career pressure. You had to think about doing it to stay on the same level. With the holding rules the way they are now, defensive linemen are going to try to find any edge they can."

It's not fair to make players think that way. They know there are serious long-term health risks to using steroids. But if football players were worried about health risks, they wouldn't play football in the first place.

What's even less fair is that young adults don't know that. They figure if pro football players are willing to take the risk to be bigger or stronger, that's good enough for them. When Ben Johnson lost his Olympic gold medal for using steroids, the reaction wasn't always that steroids must be a horrible thing. A lot of young men wanted to know where they could get that miracle drug that made Johnson look so strong and run so fast.

"When kids in high school see pro ball players and pro wrestlers, they say, 'Look, they're taking them,'" Van Horne said. "This is what I need to do." That's not

good."

No, it's not. But the NFL can't tell them none of its players use steroids. The NFL can only say it had a test last July, which was

announced 10 months in advance. The penalty for testing positive was announced five months in advance. It can say 13 players were either dumb enough to get caught with steroids in their system anyway, or unlucky enough, as the Bears' Maurice Douglass insists was his case, to have been given steroids for medical purposes without his knowledge.

NFL encourages worst steroid

There won't be another test until next July. Now players can go back to steroids. Many of them probably have already, knowing oral steroids leave the system within three months. Oral steroids aren't as safe as oil-based injectable steroids. They go straight to the liver. But oil-based steroids can stay in the system as long as a year, so the league's one-test policy not only doesn't discourage steroid use during the season, it encourages those who will use steroids to use the more dangerous kind.

"If you're going to do testing, do it to everybody once a month or don't do it at all," center Jay Hilgenberg said. "It won't do any good if it's not done randomly."

Hilgenberg is cynical enough to see the testing as a better solution to a public relations problem than to the steroids problem. "The only reason this is such a big thing now is because of Ben Johnson," he said.

The players' union opposes unscheduled steroids testing, naturally, as it does all random drug testing. It has a valid concern. There's a question about the NFL's testing standards. But that's easy enough to correct by following accepted guidelines.

If that's done, the union has no good reason to fight unscheduled tests. In fact, it has an obligation to insist on them. One of the worst working conditions for most of the union's members is that some of them use steroids and the rest are tempted.

Hampton said he is "ecstatic" that the league outlawed steroids for even the short period they couldn't be used without detection. "I can tell the difference in players already," he said. "The wallop I've felt in years past is not as great this year."

It would be a shame if the wallop came back. But unless unscheduled tests are part of the regular season, steroids will be.

NOW AVAILABLE

☐ 1985 WORLD CHAMPIONS 3X5 NYLON FLAG
ONLY \$64⁹⁵ WHILE THEY LAST!

- ☐ 1989 BEARS OFFICIAL YEARBOOK..... NOW ONLY \$7⁹⁵
- ☐ 4X6 HAND SEWN STADIUM FLAG Regularly \$125⁰⁰..... NOW \$110⁰⁰
- ☐ 3X5 TEAM NYLON FLAG Regularly \$60⁰⁰..... NOW \$45⁰⁰
- ☐ 2X3 TEAM NYLON FLAG Regularly \$45⁰⁰..... NOW \$29⁹⁵
- ☐ BEARS 100% COTTON NAVY GOLF SHIRT
As worn by PGA Champion Payne Stewart in his victory at Kemper Lakes \$39⁹⁵
- ☐ BEARS DIRECTORS CHAIR..... \$49⁹⁵
- ☐ BEARS CAR MATS..... \$39⁹⁵
- ☐ BEAR NIGHT LIGHTS \$10⁹⁵ ☐ CAR FLAGS \$6⁹⁵

Send check, money order, Visa, MasterCard (COD \$3⁰⁰ extra) to CHAMPIONSHIP BANNER, P.O. Box 11060, Greenwich, CT 06831 or call (203) 531-4775. Please add \$4⁰⁰ postage.

☒ YES! Please send me the items indicated above!

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Total Enclosed \$ _____ Please charge my ☐ VISA ☐ MC
Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Bears' 1988 Season Statistics

WON 12, LOST 4

Sept. 4	W 34-7 Miami	63,330
Sept. 11	W 17-13 at Indianapolis	60,503
Sept. 18	L 7-31 Minnesota	63,990
Sept. 25	W 24-6 at Green Bay	56,492
Oct. 2	W 24-3 Buffalo	62,793
Oct. 9	W 24-7 at Detroit	64,526
Oct. 16	W 17-7 Dallas	64,759
Oct. 24	W 10-9 San Francisco	65,293
Oct. 30	L 7-30 at New England	60,821
Nov. 6	W 28-10 Tampa Bay	56,892
Nov. 13	W 34-14 at Washington	52,418
Nov. 20	W 27-15 at Tampa Bay	67,070
Nov. 27	W 16-0 Green Bay	62,026
Dec. 5	L 3-23 at Rams	65,579
Dec. 11	W 13-12 Detroit	55,010
Dec. 19	L 27-28 at Minnesota	62,067
Dec. 31	W 20-12 Philadelphia (Playoffs)	65,534
Jan. 8	L 3-28 San Francisco (Playoffs)	64,830

	Bears	Opponents
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	303	264
Rushing	137	76
Passing	134	158
Penalty	32	30
3rd Down: Made/Att	91/217	68/216
4th Down: Made/Att	7/17	8/18
TOTAL NET YARDS	5317	4360
Avg. Per Game	332.3	272.5
Total Plays	1040	977
Avg. Per Play	5.1	4.5
NET YARDS RUSHING	2319	1326
Avg. Per Game	144.9	82.9
Total Rushes	555	389
NET YARDS PASSING	2998	3034
Avg. Per Game	187.4	189.6
Tackled/Yards Lost	24/175	43/365
Gross Yards	3173	3399
Att./Completions	461/248	545/255
Completion Pct.	53.8	45.0
Had Intercepted	15	26
PUNTS/AVERAGE	79/41.5	90/40.2
NET PUNTING AVG.	33.4	34.8
PENALTIES/YARDS	88/644	102/804
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	37/19	17/9
TOUCHDOWNS	38	25
Rushing	25	5
Passing	13	18
Returns	0	2

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
BEARS	77	131	42	62	0	312
OPPONENTS	49	56	50	60	0	215

Scoring	TD/Ru	PA	RI	PAT	FG	S	TP
Butler	0	0	0	37/38	15/19	0	82
Anderson	12	0	0	0/0	0/0	0	72
Gentry	1	3	0	0/0	0/0	0	24
McKinnon	1	3	0	0/0	0/0	0	24
McMahon	4	0	0	0/0	0/0	0	24
Morris	0	4	0	0/0	0/0	0	24
Sanders	3	0	0	0/0	0/0	0	18
Moorehead	0	2	0	0/0	0/0	0	12

PASSING	Att	Cmp	Yds	Cmp%	Yds/Att	TD	TD%	Int	Int%	Long	Sack/Lost	Rating
McMahon	192	114	1346	59.4	7.01	6	3.1	7	3.6	163	13/79	76.0
Tomczak	170	86	1310	50.6	7.71	7	4.1	6	3.5	176	5/47	75.4
Harbaugh	97	47	514	48.5	5.30	0	0.0	2	2.1	56	6/49	55.9
Anderson	1	0	0	0.0	0.00	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0/0	39.6
Wagner	1	1	3	100.0	3.00	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	0/0	79.2
BEARS	461	248	3173	53.8	6.88	13	2.8	15	3.3	176	24/175	71.4
OPPONENTS	545	245	3399	45.0	6.24	18	3.3	26	4.8	180	43/365	56.7

Suhey	2	0	0	0/0	0/0	0	12
Harbaugh	1	0	0	0/0	0/0	0	6
Muster	0	1	0	0/0	0/0	0	6
Tomczak	1	0	0	0/0	0/0	0	6
McMichael	0	0	0	0/0	0/0	1	2
BEARS	25	13	0	37/38	15/19	1	312
OPPONENTS	5	18	2	22/25	13/22	2	215

SACKS: McMichael 11.5, Dent 10.5 Hampton 9.5, Harris 3.5, Chapura 2.0, Rivera 2.0, Duerson 1.0, Johnson 1.0, Singletary 1.0, Smith 1.0, BEARS: 43.0, OPPONENTS 24.0

RUSHING	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
Anderson	249	1106	4.4	180	12
Sanders	95	332	3.5	120	3
Suhey	87	253	2.9	19	2
Muster	44	197	4.5	15	0
Harbaugh	19	110	5.8	19	1
McMahon	26	104	4.0	16	4
Gentry	7	86	12.3	158	1
Morris	3	40	13.3	21	0
Tomczak	13	40	3.1	17	1
McKinnon	3	25	8.3	12	1
Thomas	5	20	4.0	8	0
Davis	1	3	3.0	3	0
Kozlowski	1	3	3.0	3	0
Wagner	2	0	0.0	0	0
BEARS	555	2319	4.2	180	25
OPPONENTS	389	1326	3.4	32	5

RECEIVING	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
McKinnon	45	704	15.6	176	3
Anderson	39	371	9.5	36	0
Gentry	33	486	14.7	45	3
Morris	28	498	17.8	163	4
Muster	21	236	11.2	140	1
Suhey	20	154	7.7	29	0
Davis	15	220	14.7	36	0
Thornnton	15	135	9.0	19	0
Moorehead	14	133	9.5	28	2
Sanders	9	94	10.4	39	0
Boso	6	50	8.3	15	0
Kozlowski	3	92	30.7	50	0
BEARS	248	3173	12.8	176	13
OPPONENTS	245	3399	13.9	180	18

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
Jackson	8	94	11.8	46	0
Tate	4	35	8.8	17	0
Morrissey	3	13	4.3	13	0
Duerson	2	18	9.0	18	0
Richardson	2	15	7.5	15	0
Krumm	2	14	7.0	14	0
Rivera	2	0	0.0	0	0
Douglass	1	35	35.0	35	0
Singletary	1	13	13.0	13	0
Gayle	1	0	0.0	0	0
BEARS	26	237	9.1	46	0
OPPONENTS	15	175	11.7	194	1

PUNTING	No.	Yds	Avg	TB	In20	Lg	Bk
Wagner	79	3282	41.5	10	18	70	0
BEARS	79	3282	41.5	10	18	70	0
OPPONENTS	90	3622	40.2	10	29	62	0

PUNT RETURNS	Ret	FC	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
McKinnon	34	8	277	8.1	23	0
Davis	3	1	17	5.7	13	0
Kozlowski	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
BEARS	38	9	294	7.7	23	0
OPPONENTS	40	9	447	11.2	64	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
Gentry	27	578	21.4	51	0
Sanders	13	248	19.1	38	0
Muster	3	33	11.0	15	0
Kozlowski	2	37	18.5	24	0
Duerson	0	0	---	0	0
BEARS	45	896	19.9	51	0
OPPONENTS	56	1130	20.2	51	0

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+
Butler	1/1	4/4	7/8	3/6	0/0
OPPONENTS	0/0	7/7	3/5	2/8	1/2

BUTLER: (40N, 44N) (40G, 37N) () (35G) (22G) (37G) (21G, 42N) (18G) () () (32G, 24G) (36G, 43G) () (39G) (35G, 32G) (20G, 45G)
OPPONENTS: () (38G, 53G) (37G) () (28G, 46N) () (42N, 35N) (51N) (35G) (44N, 45G, 40N) () (27G, 37N, 23G) (48N, 43N) (25G, 27G, 22G) (25G, 44G)



Bears' quarterback Jim Harbaugh looks downfield for a receiver Saturday while completing 10-of-13 passes for 186 yards and three touchdowns. (Bear Report photo by Steve Woltmann)

1988 Defensive Statistics

Player	Total	Solo	Assists	PD's	FR's	FC	Sacks/Yd:
Mike Singletary	170	89	81	3	1		1/3
Dave Duerson	105	57	48	6		2	1/7
Steve McMichael	88	54	34	1	2	1	11.5/95
Dan Hampton	88	50	38	3			9.5/81
Ron Rivera	88	45	43	3	0	1	2/17
Maurice Douglass	76	43	33	11	2		
Jim Morrissey	68	26	42	5	1		
Vestee Jackson	62	40	22	22			
Richard Dent	61	31	30	2	1	3	10.5/90
Mike Richardson	60	40	20	30			
Al Harris	51	30	21		3		3.5/42
David Tate	45	20	25	4			
Shaun Gayle	22	11	11	4			
Todd Krumm	21	13	8	4			
William Perry	19	5	14				
Sean Smith	19	12	7	1			1/0
Dante Jones	16	10	6				
Mickey Pruitt	13	4	9				
Dick Chapura	13	12	1				2/26
Lemuel Stinson	10	3	7	3			
Troy Johnson	9	7	2	1			1/6
John Shannon	6	4	2				
Lorenzo Lynch	2	0	2				
Greg Clark	1	1	0				

Interceptions: Jackson 8, Tate 4, Richardson 2, Rivera 2, Krumm 2, Duerson 2, Morrissey 3, Gayle 1, Douglass 1, Singletary 1.

DON'T SMOKE

AMERICAN
LUNG
ASSOCIATION
of Wisconsin

Space contributed by the publisher
as a public service



IMPRINTED
SPORTSWEAR
SILK SCREENING
& EMBROIDERY

TALKING TEES

310 Rollins Road • Eagle Plaza
ROUND LAKE BEACH, ILLINOIS 60073
312-546-8855
Mention The Bear Report

WHITE MAGIC

UNLIMITED

Nepal — Russia — USA
Central and South America

Trekking/Rafting
Jungle Safari
Overland Journey
Mountain Biking

415-381-8889

P.O. Box 5506
Mill Valley, California 94942

Ask about our special
discount for Bear fans!



SUNCOAST
INN

(813) 799-6133

In Clearwater, Florida



•Centrally Located •Special Rates
•Swimming Pool •Jacuzzi •Exercise
Facilities •Efficiencies •Cable TV •Touch-
Tone Telephones •Flotation Mattresses
•Outdoor Games

850 U.S. Hwy. 19 South (At Clearwater Mall
1 Block South of Rt. 60)

Douglass has no guarantees

The Bears say they believe Mo Douglass when he said he used anabolic steroids without knowing it. If that's the case, they owe him a chance to make a comeback with the team.

He'll be back in time to play against Philadelphia on Oct. 2 as long as he tests clear of steroids. He can't play until he does.

But Douglass has no such guarantee.

TERRY BANNON



"We'll have to wait four weeks and see where we are," Bears coach Mike Ditka said. "It depends on who we keep and how we're doing."

Douglass probably would have been the Bears' fifth defensive back had he not been suspended. He would have been the nickel back, meaning he was to cover the inside receiver in third-down situations.

Although he's a safety by trade, he can also play cornerback. "He's played free safety, cornerback and strong safety for us and done well," Ditka said.

Douglass said he took medication for a broken wrist he was playing with at the end of last season. However, he was administered the drug by someone he trusted outside the Bears' organization.

Here is the defense Douglass offered:

"I've never to my knowledge taken an anabolic steroid. The guy who administered it to me told me it was something to make me heal my wrist, that I had a slight break in it during the season. I haven't had anything since the end of January. I thought it would be out of my system and I didn't think it was an anabolic steroid as far as an enhancer, as far as my performance, because I hadn't gotten any bigger or any strength or any speed from it.

"I've never been on them in my life. I didn't have any use for it then and I have no use for it now. This is really a shock to me."

Douglass makes expensive mistake

Ditka said he believed Douglass' story. "Some mistakes can be forgotten and some are very expensive," Ditka said. "This one is very expensive for Mo. I believe it's

an innocent thing. I don't believe he did it to build endurance, stamina or strength. I believe he made a mistake on somebody else's advice."

If that's the case, Douglass deserves a second chance. The Bears' history of dealing with drug problems is brief but clear.

Last year, backup fullback Calvin Thomas didn't get a chance to come back from a drug suspension. When he was reinstated by the NFL, he was promptly traded to Denver. The Bears received a low, conditional draft choice. Thomas did little for the Broncos, but he did enough for the Bears to get the pick. But before this year's draft, the Bears gave the pick back.

So they got nothing for Thomas. That means, in effect, they cut him.

Douglass' future may depend on how well

the Bears do without him. Lemuel Stinson took his place as the strong safety in the nickel.

"I have to continue to work harder," Stinson said. "There are a lot of great receivers who line up opposite that spot (in the nickel)."

"Stinson had a good training camp," defensive coordinator Vince Tobin said. "I believe he's going to be a good football player for us."

Mo may or may not be back

Tobin is not in a position to make Douglass any promises, either. The Bears aren't about to cut someone who's contributing just to make room for Douglass.

"Certainly there's a chance Mo Douglass

won't be here," he said. "There's a chance he will be, also."

Player personnel vice president Bill Tobin said, "Every case is handled on an individual basis."

The Bears pride themselves on avoiding drug problems. But they were one of only eight teams to lose players to steroid suspensions.

"We hope we do (stay away from such players). But how do you know, really?" Bill Tobin said. "Steroids are something that has been in college ranks for several years and it's even in high schools. We're not naive enough to think that because you're a pro football player, you're completely off steroids. You try to steer clear of people using steroids or other drugs, but nothing is absolute."

SIGN WITH US AND WE'LL THROW IN THE NUMBER ONE DRAFT CHOICE.



To celebrate the beginning of our 22nd year of providing "The Best Coverage In The NFL," we have an offer we feel no true football fan can refuse. Sign up with us today for the coming year at dramatically discounted rates, and we'll throw in everybody's No. 1 pick when it comes to the NFL's annual college draft, "1990 NFL College Draft Preview" by Joel Buchsbaum and the editors of Pro Football Weekly.

And there's more! If you order your one-year/28 issue subscription to PRO FOOTBALL WEEKLY before September 1, 1989, you pay just \$48 for a full year of "The Best Coverage In The NFL." Save \$36 off the cost of purchasing PFW at the newsstands, and \$7 off our regular subscription rate!

PRO Football
WEEKLY
THE BEST COVERAGE IN THE NFL.

Consider what NBC's Bob Costas has to say about the "1990 NFL College Draft Preview" and Pro Football Weekly's Joel Buchsbaum: "When it comes to analyzing the NFL, Buchsbaum books rank No. 1!"

"1990 NFL College Draft Preview" is the definitive work on today's college seniors who promise to be next year's NFL rookie sensations and it sells for \$10.95. But it's yours, absolutely free, for signing up with us today for one year or longer.

Don't delay! Make the sharpest deal any NFL fan can make today. To order call Toll Free: 1-800-992-9669, 10AM - 6PM Mon. - Fri. Eastern Time. In Illinois, call: (312) 272-5199.

SUBSCRIPTION ORDER FORM		A9F13
<input type="checkbox"/> I would like a one-year/28 issue subscription for only \$48.00. <input type="checkbox"/> I would like a two-year/56 issue subscription for only \$93.00. <input type="checkbox"/> My check/money order for _____ is enclosed.		
Please charge my: <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard <input type="checkbox"/> Am. Express		
Signature _____	Phone _____	
Credit Card # _____	Exp. Date _____	
Address _____	City _____ State _____ Zip _____	
Mail to: Pro Football Weekly, P.O. Box 1347, Elmhurst, IL 60126-9945		

World's First Store For The Sports Collector

WE BUY AND SELL ALL SPORTS COLLECTABLE

SPORT COLLECTORS STORE

9 S. LA GRANGE ROAD
LA GRANGE, ILLINOIS 60525
(312) 354-7970

FOOTBALL SOUVENIRS OF ALL TYPES

CARDS, ADVERTISING, PINS, UNIFORMS, AUTOGRAPHS-BOOKS PROGRAMS
Entire Collection Large Or Small

Store Hours- Mon.12-7, Tues.-Thurs.12-5, Sat.10:30-4 OFFICERS
PAT QUINN, DON STEINBACH

Question of the Week

Is the first game of the season special to you?

DEFENSIVE END TRACE ARMSTRONG — "This will be my first opportunity to play an official game in the NFL. I'll be real excited about it. It'll be realizing 23 years of dreams and hard work. Ever since I've been a little kid this is all I've ever wanted to do. So I have a heck of an opportunity. Not many people can say that they're doing what they've always wanted to do."

"In college, too, it was exciting. It was a big game and I was real nervous. But I would say it was a little bit different because at the college level I would say I was a lot more unsure of myself than I am at this level."



Trace Armstrong

DEFENSIVE END RICHARD DENT — "It's a special game because it's the first one. You can't afford to drop the first one. The longer it takes you to win the harder it is mentally for a team to get ready. You begin to get in a race and you need to get the feeling of winning. We know what it's like, so you have to be willing to put forth right away."

"The first one you have to have in order to start to snowball. If you can't get your first one, you're stuck out in the cold. We haven't lost the first one in quite awhile, so that's the start to a good season. It's not that you can't



Richard Dent

go good after losing, but I don't want to lose the first game."

GUARD TOM THAYER — "The games start counting, the people are watching, and it's the road. Everybody talks about the road to the Super Bowl. When they start counting, it's it. It's everything you're paid for, it's everything you play for. Especially if you start off the year beating one of the Super Bowl teams, that's a shot in the arm. That's like getting vitamin B-12 for the next 15 games. If you can stop a team like Cincinnati and score some points on them, I think it gives you a boost going into the second week



Tom Thayer

against Minnesota. And that's what we need."

RUNNING BACK NEAL ANDERSON — "I think it carries a little more weight because sometimes it can set the tempo for the rest of the season, depending on how you play — not just whether you win or not, but depending on how you play. You might not win every opener, but I think it's a very important game."

"And you know you can't say, 'Well, we're getting ready. We'll be there when it counts.' You know now they all count."



Neal Anderson

Honey Bear Express

We Deliver Teddy Bears.
Balloon Bouquets.
Custom Baskets With
Fruit and Other Goodies
(With Teddy Bear). Major
Credit Cards Accepted.

602-325-4969
Fax 602-326-8314

3345 E. Speedway Blvd.
TUCSON, ARIZONA

Mention Bear Report

MORELLI'S PIZZA

Pizza • Salads
Oven Baked
Sandwiches
We Deliver!
Open 7 Days
10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

808-885-6100

Parker Ranch
Shopping Center
KAMUELA, HAWAII

Mention Chicago Bear Report

The MAUI MARRIOTT offers you the ultimate Hawaiian experience for just \$89 per night per person, double occupancy, including a National Rental Car. Come bask in the casual elegance of this AAA Four-Diamond resort. Enjoy golf, tennis, shops, water sports, and unforgettable dining. It's all at the Maui Marriott. Just \$89, car included.



Maui Marriott
ON KAHANAPALI BEACH

100 Nohea Kai Drive
Lahania, Maui, Hawaii 96761
Call toll-free 800-228-9290
or 808-667-1200

OWN FLORIDA PROPERTIES

For Little DP... No Credit Checks...
No Job Verification... We Finance...
Hurry... Call Today. Ray

(301) 762-4237, Ext. 2

Mention The Bears!

USA's BEST WHITE WATER

2 night package includes
air, hotel, rental car & 1
day raft trip on the New
or Gauley River, W.V.
packages from \$269.

Contact

THE RIVERMEN

P.O. Box 360
FAYETTEVILLE
WEST VIRGINIA 25840

1-800-422-RAFT

Mention The Bears!

Look for our exhibit at the
Chicago Land Sport Fishing,
Travel and Outdoor Show
Jan. 26th-Feb. 4th

O'Hare Expo Center

Moose • Bear • Waterfowl Hunt N.W. Manitoba

500 Square Miles of Hunting
Region. Spring, Fall, Trophy
Hunts, Fly-in Wilderness Regions,
Top Quality, Fully Guided Rifle or
Bow-Licensed Outfitter.

Tonapah Lodge, Ltd.

Box 42
Cranberry Prg., Manitoba, Canada R0B 0H0
1-(204)-472-3372 or 472-3460
Booking Now For 1990
Mention The Bears!

FLORIDA

A CONDO CARE VACATION

Orlando, 1, 2 & 3 bedroom
condos fully equipped with
complete kitchen, pool & lake
with fishing dock. 20 minutes to
Disney/Epcot/MGM. From
\$380/week. Sept. thru Nov. 10%
senior citizen discount. Monthly
rates available.

Toll Free 1-800-633-9474
Or 407-851-4839
Mention The Bears!

GAMEKEEPERS

FEATURING

"CHICAGO'S
PREMIERE
SPORTS BAR"



SPORTS • MUSIC • FOOD

COMING SOON "BIG TEN" FOOTBALL

345 W. Armitage, Chicago, Illinois

312-549-0400

•PHONES•PHONES•PHONES

uniden
CP 1050 MOBILE
CELLULAR TELEPHONE

\$495.00*

- Hands Free • 30 Number Memory
- 3 Year Warrantee • Cellular One Service
- Glass Mount Antenna
- Free Installation

We also carry a large selection of
Cellular phones from all the top manufacturers.

Mobile Hi-Fi

6300 N. Lincoln Ave.
Chicago, Illinois
(312) 463-8080

Two Locations
To Serve You
*Most Cars

9760 W. Grand
Franklin Park, Illinois
(312) 455-6166



SPORTS WEAR BY



Styles of
1989
Prices of
1970!

BON TON
2929 N. Broadway, Chicago, IL
312-935-0027
STORE HOURS 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sunday 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Mention The Bears!

Start feeling good
about your body...



we'll help you
turn things around.

Mention The Bear Report!

Jazzercise

Every time you turn around, we're doing something new.

4 for \$4

This coupon entitles you to four FREE Jazzercise classes with the purchase of four classes (prices from \$2.25/class). Offer expires 01/31/90. This offer for new students at participating franchises only. Not good with any other offer. No contracts. No fancy equipment. No competition. Jazzercise isn't the latest in fads. It's the latest in fun. Over 400 classes in Chicago & Suburbs. For a class near you

Call (312) 397-7230

815-838-3322

DUCK HUNTING CENTRAL ILLINOIS PRICE'S DUCK AND GOOSE CLUB

Mississippi Flyway — at Price's
Duck Club. Located 170 miles
from Chicago next to the Illinois
River — Banner Marsh area.

89 Season Memberships Only

DELUXE ACCOMMODATIONS

Blinds, Pit, Decoys, Picker, Boats

Call Now

(312) 777-8690
(309) 647-7621
Mention The Bears

NFL Notebook

How will the Bears' QBs rate?

How important is a quarterback? The Bears could find out Sunday in their opener against Cincinnati, when Bengals' quarterback Boomer Esiason comes to Soldier Field.

Esiason was the National Football League's player of the year in 1988, not only

DON PIERSON



tion among the elite quarterbacks. He says that no longer bothers him.

"I know where I stand. I'm proud of the things I've accomplished. I'm also not hung up on being the best. I feel I play for the best offense. I played a very important part in the offense, but there are 10 guys just as important as I am," Esiason said.

"What matters is how the team plays. I know where I belong. I know no other quarterback runs a no-huddle offense with a coded system. I know no other team in the league has an offense as intricate as ours, where the quarterback is making offensive line calls, wide receiver calls, and running back calls."

Meanwhile, the Bears just chug along with their unsung quarterbacks from Ohio State and Michigan who don't have Diet Coke commercials, goldilocks, or championships.

•**THE CRIES OF PLAYER** "vindication" coming from Dan Dierdorf in ABC's Monday Night booth when the league announced its steroid suspensions failed to address some points.

Does the number of suspensions, 13, have any relationship whatsoever to the number of players who were or still are on steroids?

Doesn't it represent 13 especially dumb players who got caught despite a four-month warning?

Isn't unscheduled testing of all players the only way to really find out how many use the stuff?

•**ANOTHER QUESTION.** The NFL said it

is cracking down on steroids to preserve the competitive balance and integrity of the contests. This makes sense, but does the average fan really care if some of the athletes are juiced up on steroids and some aren't?

Will the knowledge that athletes use drugs ever affect attendance or interest?

If the NFL can sell tickets for scab games during player strikes, does anyone really pay attention to what they are paying to see?

Just wondering.

•**GREAT OPENERS:**

The Bears vs. Bengals will not only be a study in different quarterback philosophies, it will provide the first look of 1989 into relative AFC-NFC strength.

The San Diego Chargers at the Los Angeles Raiders. Subtitle: Where The Bears Are. Jim McMahon vs. Otis Wilson, Willie Gault, Mike Richardson. A meeting of the Mike Ditka fan club will follow.

The Houston Oilers at the Minnesota Vikings. Another AFC-NFC clash between wildcards who are early Super Bowl favorites. Will Houston be any better on the road this year? Can Minnesota start fast despite bitter holdouts?

The San Francisco 49ers at the Indianapolis Colts. The defending world champions become the first team since the 1968 Green Bay Packers to come off a Super Bowl victory with a new coach. George Seifert hopes the result is better than the 6-7-1 season turned in during Phil Bengtson's first year in Green Bay. The Colts get a good early test

for their improved passing game and more aggressive defense.

The New York Giants at the Washington Redskins. The Monday Night opener will provide an early line on what promises to be another tight race in the NFC East Division.

•**THERE WAS CONCERN IN Cincinnati** that Ickey Woods' outstanding rookie season would go to Ickey's head and opponents would soon be dancing on his chest. But Woods showed up for training camp early, albeit slightly overweight, to get ready for his sophomore season.

"His head has always been straight," coach Sam Wyche said. "We wanted to make the point that people will be playing him a little differently. They will know he's a good player and work harder to stop him."

"I could see him starting to get the fever again during the first three days. You can spot the extra run he makes after he breaks through the line of scrimmage. After practice, he runs gassers on his own to get in condition. Those are the kind of clues that lead you to believe he's put himself in position to have another good year."

But wait! After gaining 55 yards on 24 carries through the first three preseason games, Woods was criticized by Wyche:

"Ickey definitely does not look like the player he was last year when he should have been in the Pro Bowl. He's not picking the right holes, not cutting back, and not putting his head down and exploding into people when there's nowhere else to go."



Bengals' quarterback Boomer Esiason will have to prove against the Bears Sunday that his sore shoulder that bothered him in the Super Bowl won't hurt him this season.



LET YOUR SPIRIT FLY!

OFFICIAL NFL
CHICAGO BEARS FLAGS

3' x 5' Nylon Silk-Screened

\$45

Order directly from:

SPORTFLAG
division of Flying Colours

1-800-422-FLAG





All 28 NFL Flags Available





800
SECTION

443
ROW

4196
SEAT

R & N SPORTS
YOUR TICKET TO OFFICIALLY
LICENSED BEAR WEAR & MORE!



NFL JACKETS \$85
WINDBREAKERS \$38
SWEATSHIRTS \$25

PARKAS \$95
HVY. WT. TEES \$14
ACTION JERSEYS \$55

CLIFF ENGLE SWEATERS \$42
 NFL CAPS WOOL \$17 CORD \$12
 DELONG AWARD MELTON JACKETS \$200

AND MORE!

CUBS APPAREL!

MLB STARTER JACKETS \$80
WINDBREAKERS \$38
B/P JERSEYS \$35

NEW ERA CAPS \$18
GAME JERSEYS \$80

WE OFFER A COMPLETE LINE OF
LICENSED APPAREL FOR ALL
NFL AND MLB TEAMS!

R & N SPORTS
10 SOUTH HAVANA #103
AURORA, COLORADO 80012
1-800-443-4196

CATALOG \$1
FREE WITH ORDER

PLEASE ADD \$5
SHIP & HANDL.

Viewpoint

Mail Letters To: 1271 W. Dundee Rd., Box 89E, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

Trade was best for McMahon

To the editor,

When we heard Jim McMahon got traded we were stunned to even think Mike Ditka would actually trade him (even though there had been rumors of the trade), especially when it is his last year of his contract. But we think it is for the best because now Jim gets to shape up another team.

There has been talk that Ditka traded him because of his injuries. For whatever the reasons were, it was probably for the best. Jim, we wish you the best of luck with your new team.

P.S. — Could you tell us Jim's address so we can write to him?

Stacey and Jodi VanStee
Alto, MI

Editor's note — You can write to McMahon at this address: c/o San Diego Chargers, Jack Murphy Stadium, 9449 Friars Road, San Diego, CA, 92108.

Trade was the right thing

To the editor,

I, like all Bear fans, live and die with the Bears weekly. The McMahon trade was the correct and wise thing to do. The Bears already lost the "Great Jim McMahon" — his greatness is all history in 1989.

I'd like to see Jim Harbaugh learn, as Mike Tomczak had to, to not look at his target all the way down the field. Harbaugh is the Bears' future. Tomczak is going to be okay — a leader, a winner.

The new young players and rookies are promising. We can't wait for the season to start.

I'd also like to see (with apologies to a great coach, Johnny Roland) Walter Payton coaching the running backs. Teaching them his punishing style, hitting the linebacker, instead of waiting to be knocked off his feet.

Good luck to Mike Ditka, who coaches the way he played. He brought back the Monsters of the Midway.

Ben Walker
Park Forest, IL

McMahon not alone

To the editor,

Even Namath and Unitas got traded. Jim McMahon will always be remembered as a champion, a Chicago Bear champion. He took us all on a wild ride to the top of the NFL. Along with Walter, Butkus and Sayers and the whole '85 team, Mad Mac will always be a Chicago Bear.

P.S. — Could any fellow Bear fan help me out? I desperately need two team photos of last year's team.

Rick Conti
95 Otis St.
Medford, Mass. 02155

McMahon can't be replaced

To the editor,

Way to go, Ditka. You just gave up the best quarterback you ever had. What are the Chicago Bears without Jim McMahon? He's been with the Bears for eight years, and in those eight years he's shown more leadership, determination, style and guts than Tomczak or Harbaugh could ever even dream of having.

Maybe you should put away your ego and think about what would be best for the team. But I guess it's a little late for that now.

Maybe Jim McMahon was too good of a quarterback for the Bears, anyway. I'm sure San Diego will make a big hit with your mistake. Good luck trying to find something that can't be replaced.

Jessica Welein
Mondovi, WI

Trade is best thing for Bears

To the editor,

When I heard about the Jim McMahon trade, I was stunned. I did not know what to say. But thinking back I think the trade was best for the whole Chicago Bear system.

I happened to be up in La Crosse, Wis. to see the Bears practice. McMahon, Tomczak and Harbaugh, who has really improved, all looked good. But I think it was Mike Tomczak's job to lose. And I think Ditka was looking for a reason to start Tomczak over McMahon. And if Ditka would have done that there would have been turmoil on the sidelines.

I really think McMahon only has a couple years left in him, anyway.

I think this will help the Bears a lot, giving them more young talent for next year and giving the Chargers the leadership they have deeply missed since the Fouts days. I think we have nothing to worry about. Tomczak will do a great job.

Tim Janssen
Aplington, IA

Bring McMahon back

To the editor,

It wasn't until three and a half years ago that I became interested in football. I agreed to go with my husband and a group of people to a bar to watch the Bear-Viking game. The camera kept flashing on McMahon. Finally I asked who that was. Someone said, "Oh, that's Chicago's cocky quarterback, Jim McMahon."

As the game went on I became more interested in him and his Bears. I'm now a Bear fan and love football. My husband can't believe it.

But now McMahon is gone. I can't believe it. I feel like I should be wearing black. I always said if McMahon should leave I'd still follow the Bears. But I feel empty. The Bears aren't going to be the same in popularity. McMahon added a spark.

Everyone is already talking about McMahon and the Chargers. I could hardly wait until the sports came on to hear the results of the Bear-Charger game. Yes, deep inside I was glad the Chargers won.

I'm sitting with the *Bear Report* every month, a hotel package for the Bear-Viking game Sept. 17, tickets to see the Bear-Viking game Dec. 3 and I'm not as happy or excited anymore. I want to fly to Seattle to visit my sister, who has season tickets for the Seahawks, to see them play the Chargers.

Bring McMahon back!

Carol Isaak
Newport, MN

Bears headed toward worst season under Ditka

To the editor,

I am now entering my 21st season as a loyal Bear fan. It's also my eighth year as a subscriber to the *Bear Report*. I've been through many losing seasons, I've witnessed the greatest running back of all time in Sweetness, and I've had the ultimate taste of victory.

This season hasn't even started yet, and already I feel the Bears are headed toward their worst season since Coach Ditka's arrival. The trading of Jim McMahon to San Diego has all but ended this season for me. The Bears haven't ever had a quarterback like Jim and probably never will again. He gave me that ultimate taste of victory I had mentioned. Sure it was a team effort, but every team needs a leader. He was the spark that set the Bears on fire. He made the Bears so enjoyable to watch. It is said that Dan Marino is the best quarterback. Well, when

he doesn't have the best receivers, he's just another quarterback. On the other hand, McMahon could make things happen with anyone on the field.

He will be deeply missed by this fan. As for Coach Ditka, I get this feeling he thinks he can win with anyone. He should put his ego on the back burner and think about the team, the fans and a full team effort from coaches and players.

I look for the Bears to finish under .500, probably 6-10.

Wally Jimmo
Miami, FL

Bears will miss McMahon

To the editor,

Today I learned about the trade of Jim McMahon to the San Diego Chargers. I was very disappointed as I assume most Bears fans are. I love Jim and thought when he wasn't injured that he was the best bet the Bears had for a quarterback. I'm glad we have replacements as good as Mike Tomczak and Jim Harbaugh, but the Bears were known for McMahon and I think they're going to miss him.

I was curious about why the Bear Report didn't let us know about the chances for a trade of McMahon. Last that we were informed of the chances for a trade was in the May 1989 issue. Even during training camp there should have been some suspicion of the trade. I wish the best of luck to Jim with San Diego because even though I am a true Bears fan I think Jim is the best.

Heather Holmes
Girard, PA

Editor's note — Go back and look at your old issues carefully. The possibility of McMahon getting traded was mentioned in the February, April, May and July issues. It was also mentioned that San Diego was the leading candidate to trade for McMahon.

The possibility of a trade wasn't reported in the two issues between the July issue and when the trade actually happened because there were no new developments. And during that time no other publications reported any new developments, either. To keep mentioning in those two issues that it was possible McMahon could be traded without anything new to report would merely have been redundant.

More than 1 starting QB needed

To the editor,

Well, Mr. Ditka finally made his move or got his way — whichever soothes the mind. But let's face it, he had to. He knew all along that "his" man was Mr. Tomczak. Oh, nothing against Mike at all. In fact, I think he is very capable of leading the Bears to another Super Bowl someday — but now?

Why is it other teams, like the Vikings, 49ers and Redskins, seem to be able to have, hold and live with more than one starting quarterback? In fact, Ditka was at a luxury — these days you need to have more than one guy capable of coming in there during a crucial game situation and getting the job done. And nothing against Jim Harbaugh, either, but I just don't think he is quite up to par yet.

Therefore, my question: Why Jim McMahon, the only quarterback to take the Bears to and win a Super Bowl? Why Jim McMahon, the charismatic guy who at times seemed to draw just as much attention away from the game as during?

I don't think anyone ever doubted his character or sincerity to the Bear organization or, above all, his teammates.

Simply put, Mr. Ditka just couldn't stomach the guy because of his attention-getting prowess. Ditka did not like Jim's success off the field and they simply couldn't get

along.

I wish good luck to Jim, the Chargers football team and San Diego fans. But most of all, I wish good luck to Chicago, the Bears and Mr. Ditka. They're going to need it.

P.S. I am interested in starting a club or organization of Southern Californians who follow the Bears loyally, or, if one already exists, where I and a few of my friends at work can join.

If you know of any in the Southern California area or could have people write to me in order to get one started, I would appreciate it.

Thomas L. Dant
14796 Mountain High Dr.
Fontana, CA 92335

Ditka should know about heart problems

To the editor,

Ditka should have first consulted his cardiologist prior to trading McMahon, as I believe the good doctor would have informed Ditka that if you remove the heart, all the other vital signs cease.

San Diego proved it: 24-7. Houston, Minnesota, Washington and San Francisco are already looking past the Bears. Green Bay figures to take two, and Tampa Bay will finally win one against the Bears.

Buddy Ryan must have jumped for joy. Next year the deal would have made good cents — this year it was poor sense.

McMahon would have been the difference in four or five victories, which will now be losses. Forget the playoffs, we can only hope for an 8-8 record and maybe as bad as 6-10.

Donald J. Frehe
Chicago

McMahon won't be forgotten

To the editor,

It's a sad day today — Jim McMahon was traded.

I want to thank him for many things — his leadership, his athletic ability, his wit, his honesty, his electrifying personality, but most of all for being our quarterback for the past seven years. He gave it all and then some.

I loved him for who he was and what he brought to the Bear organization. I hope he never changes. He may be gone but he'll never be forgotten.

Linda Mejdreich
Woodridge, IL

McMahon needed for his charisma

To the editor,

I wish to express my outrage at the trading of Jim McMahon by the Bears to the Chargers. I have been a Bear fan for 20 years, traveling from Florida to Soldier Field once a year to see a game as well as being at Tampa Stadium each year to see them play the Bucs. For the past two years I have subscribed to your magazine and have read many articles regarding the stormy relationship between Mike Ditka and McMahon. I realize he has not been playing much, but his charisma alone made him worth keeping. Have you ever seen a team so motivated by one quarterback?

My first question is what happens when Tomczak gets injured? In comes Harbaugh, and the thought of that really frightens me. I met George Halas more than 15 years ago, and I'm sure this trade would not have happened if he were alive. There is no longer any quarterback controversy for the Bears, and I certainly haven't abandoned them, but I'll be watching to see just what Mr. Ditka does.

James C. Pidgeon III
St. Petersburg, FL

1989 NFL Schedule

WEEK 1

Sunday, Sept. 10

Cincinnati at Bears, noon
Dallas at New Orleans, noon
L.A. Rams at Atlanta, noon
Phoenix at Detroit, noon
San Francisco at Indianapolis, noon
Tampa Bay at Green Bay, noon
Cleveland at Pittsburgh, 3 p.m.
New England at N.Y. Jets, 3 p.m.
Houston at Minnesota, 3 p.m.
Buffalo at Miami, 3 p.m.
Seattle at Philadelphia, 3 p.m.
Kansas City at Denver, 3 p.m.
San Diego at L.A. Raiders, 3 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 11
N.Y. Giants at Washington, 8 p.m.

Week 2

Sunday, Sept. 17

Dallas at Atlanta, noon
L.A. Raiders at Kansas City, noon
Miami at New England, noon
New Orleans at Green Bay, noon
N.Y. Jets at Cleveland, noon
Philadelphia at Washington, noon
Pittsburgh at Cincinnati, noon
San Francisco at Tampa Bay, 3 p.m.
Detroit at N.Y. Giants, 3 p.m.
Minnesota at Bears, 3 p.m.
Phoenix at Seattle, 3 p.m.
Houston at San Diego, 3 p.m.
Indianapolis at L.A. Rams, 3 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 18
Denver at Buffalo, 8 p.m.

Week 3

Sunday, Sept. 24

Atlanta at Indianapolis, noon
Buffalo at Houston, noon
Bears at Detroit, noon
Minnesota at Pittsburgh, noon
New Orleans at Tampa Bay, noon
Phoenix at N.Y. Giants, noon
San Francisco at Philadelphia, noon
Seattle at New England, noon
Washington at Dallas, noon
Green Bay at L.A. Rams, 3 p.m.
Kansas City at San Diego, 3 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at Miami, 3 p.m.
L.A. Raiders at Denver, 3 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 25
Cleveland at Cincinnati, 8 p.m.

Week 4

Sunday, Oct. 1

Atlanta vs. Green Bay at Milw., noon
Cincinnati at Kansas City, noon
Denver at Cleveland, noon
Indianapolis at N.Y. Jets, noon
Miami at Houston, noon
New England at Buffalo, noon
Washington at New Orleans, noon
Pittsburgh at Detroit, noon
Tampa Bay at Minnesota, noon
San Diego at Phoenix, 3 p.m.
Seattle at L.A. Raiders, 3 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Dallas, 3 p.m.
L.A. Rams at San Francisco, 3 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 2
Philadelphia at Bears, 8 p.m.

Week 5

Sunday, Oct. 8

Buffalo at Indianapolis, noon
Bears at Tampa Bay, noon
Cincinnati at Pittsburgh, noon
Cleveland at Miami, noon
Dallas at Green Bay, noon
Detroit at Minnesota, noon
Houston at New England, noon
N.Y. Giants at Philadelphia, noon
Phoenix at Washington, 3 p.m.
San Diego at Denver, 3 p.m.
Kansas City at Seattle, 3 p.m.
New Orleans at San Francisco, 3 p.m.
Atlanta at L.A. Rams, 3 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 9
L.A. Raiders at N.Y. Jets, 8 p.m.

Week 6

Sunday, Oct. 15

Detroit at Tampa Bay, noon
Green Bay at Minnesota, noon
Houston at Bears, noon
Miami at Cincinnati, noon
New England at Atlanta, noon
Washington at N.Y. Giants, noon
San Francisco at Dallas, noon
Seattle at San Diego, 3 p.m.
Indianapolis at Denver, 3 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Cleveland, 3 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at New Orleans, 3 p.m.
Philadelphia at Phoenix, 3 p.m.
Kansas City at L.A. Raiders, 3 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 16
L.A. Rams at Buffalo, 8 p.m.

Week 7

Sunday, Oct. 22

Dallas at Kansas City, noon
Green Bay at Miami, noon
Indianapolis at Cincinnati, noon
L.A. Raiders at Philadelphia, noon
Minnesota at Detroit, noon
N.Y. Jets at Buffalo, noon
Pittsburgh at Houston, noon
Tampa Bay at Washington, noon
New England at San Francisco, 3 p.m.
Atlanta at Phoenix, 3 p.m.
Denver at Seattle, 3 p.m.
New Orleans at L.A. Rams, 3 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at San Diego, 3 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 23
Bears at Cleveland, 8 p.m.

Week 8

Sunday, Oct. 29

Atlanta at New Orleans, noon
Detroit vs. Green Bay at Milw., noon
Houston at Cleveland, noon
Kansas City at Pittsburgh, noon
L.A. Rams at Bears, noon
Miami at Buffalo, noon
New England at Indianapolis, noon
Phoenix at Dallas, noon
Tampa Bay at Cincinnati, noon
San Francisco at N.Y. Jets, 3 p.m.
Washington at L.A. Raiders, 3 p.m.
Philadelphia at Denver, 3 p.m.
San Diego at Seattle, 3 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 30
Minnesota at N.Y. Giants, 8 p.m.

Week 9

Sunday, Nov. 5

Buffalo at Atlanta, noon
Bears at Green Bay, noon
Cleveland at Tampa Bay, noon
Detroit at Houston, noon
Indianapolis at Miami, noon
L.A. Rams at Minnesota, noon
N.Y. Jets at New England, noon
Seattle at Kansas City, noon
Cincinnati at L.A. Raiders, 3 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Phoenix, 3 p.m.
Philadelphia at San Diego, 3 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Denver, 3 p.m.
Dallas at Washington, 7 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 6
San Francisco at New Orleans, 8 p.m.

Week 10

Sunday, Nov. 12

Bears at Pittsburgh, noon
Denver at Kansas City, noon
Green Bay at Detroit, noon
Indianapolis at Buffalo, noon
Miami at N.Y. Jets, noon
Minnesota at Tampa Bay, noon
New Orleans at New England, noon
Washington at Philadelphia, noon
Atlanta at San Francisco, 3 p.m.
Cleveland at Seattle, 3 p.m.
Dallas at Phoenix, 3 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at L.A. Rams, 3 p.m.
L.A. Raiders at San Diego, 7 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 13
Cincinnati at Houston, 8 p.m.

Week 11

Sunday, Nov. 19

Buffalo at New England, noon
Detroit at Cincinnati, noon
Kansas City at Cleveland, noon
Miami at Dallas, noon
Minnesota at Philadelphia, noon
New Orleans at Atlanta, noon
San Diego at Pittsburgh, noon
Tampa Bay at Bears, noon
Phoenix at L.A. Rams, 3 p.m.
L.A. Raiders at Houston, 3 p.m.
Seattle at N.Y. Giants, 3 p.m.
Green Bay at San Francisco, 3 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at Indianapolis, 7 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 20
Denver at Washington, 8 p.m.

Week 12

Thursday, Nov. 23

Cleveland at Detroit, 11:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Dallas, 3 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 26
Atlanta at N.Y. Jets, noon
Cincinnati at Buffalo, noon
Houston at Kansas City, noon
Minnesota vs. Green Bay at Milw., noon
Pittsburgh at Miami, noon
San Diego at Indianapolis, noon
Seattle at Denver, 3 p.m.
New England at L.A. Raiders, 3 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Phoenix, 3 p.m.
Bears at Washington, 3 p.m.
L.A. Rams at New Orleans, 7 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 27
N.Y. Giants at San Francisco, 8 p.m.

Week 13

Sunday, Dec. 3

Cincinnati at Cleveland, noon
Green Bay at Tampa Bay, noon
Houston at Pittsburgh, noon
Indianapolis at New England, noon
L.A. Rams at Dallas, noon
Miami at Kansas City, noon
New Orleans at Detroit, noon
Philadelphia at N.Y. Giants, noon
San Francisco at Atlanta, noon
Washington at Phoenix, 3 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at San Diego, 3 p.m.
Denver at L.A. Raiders, 3 p.m.
Bears at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 4
Buffalo at Seattle, 8 p.m.

Week 14

Sunday, Dec. 10

Atlanta at Minnesota, noon
Dallas at Philadelphia, noon
Detroit at Bears, noon
Kansas City at Green Bay, noon
New Orleans at Buffalo, noon
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Jets, noon
San Diego at Washington, noon
Seattle at Cincinnati, noon
Tampa Bay at Houston, noon
Cleveland at Indianapolis, 3 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Denver, 3 p.m.
Phoenix at L.A. Raiders, 3 p.m.
New England at Miami, 7 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 11
San Francisco at L.A. Rams, 8 p.m.

Week 15

Saturday, Dec. 16

Dallas at N.Y. Giants, 11:30 a.m.
Denver at Phoenix, 3 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 17
Green Bay at Bears, noon
Houston at Cincinnati, noon
Miami at Indianapolis, noon
Minnesota at Cleveland, noon
New England at Pittsburgh, noon
San Diego at Kansas City, noon
Tampa Bay at Detroit, noon
Washington at Atlanta, 3 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at L.A. Rams, 3 p.m.
Buffalo at San Francisco, 3 p.m.
L.A. Raiders at Seattle, 7 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 18
Philadelphia at New Orleans, 8 p.m.

Week 16

Saturday, Dec. 23

Buffalo at N.Y. Jets, 11:30 a.m.
Washington at Seattle, 3 p.m.
Cleveland at Houston, 7 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 24
Detroit at Atlanta, noon
Green Bay at Dallas, noon
Indianapolis at New Orleans, noon
Kansas City at Miami, noon
L.A. Raiders at N.Y. Giants, noon
L.A. Rams at New England, noon
Phoenix at Philadelphia, noon
Pittsburgh at Tampa Bay, noon
Bears at San Francisco, 3 p.m.
Denver at San Diego, 3 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 25
Cincinnati at Minnesota, 8 p.m.

Bears' Schedule

PRE-SEASON

Mon., Aug. 14 at Miami Bears 28, Miami 20
Sat., Aug. 19 San Diego San Diego 24, Bears 7
Sun., Aug. 27 Kansas City Kansas City 22, Bears 17
Sat., Sept. 2 at L.A. Raiders Bears 41, Los Angeles Raiders 38

REGULAR SEASON

Sun., Sept. 10 Cincinnati noon
Sun., Sept. 17 Minnesota 3 p.m.
Sun., Sept. 24 at Detroit noon
Mon., Oct. 2 Philadelphia 8 p.m.
Sun., Oct. 8 at Tampa noon
Sun., Oct. 15 Houston noon
Mon., Oct. 23 at Cleveland 8 p.m.
Sun., Oct. 29 L.A. Rams noon
Sun., Nov. 5 at Green Bay noon
Sun., Nov. 12 at Pittsburgh noon
Sun., Nov. 19 Tampa noon
Sun., Nov. 26 at Washington 3 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 3 at Minnesota 7 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 10 Detroit noon
Sun., Dec. 17 Green Bay noon
Sun., Dec. 24 at San Francisco 3 p.m.



BEAR REPORT

CHICAGO BEARS



CENTRAL DIVISION NFC CHAMPIONS

MIKE SINGLETARY
NEIL ANDERSON
DAVE DUERSON

THE BEARS '89 CHALLENGE

INJURIES, LOSSES
TO FREE AGENCY,
PLAYER/COACHES
CONTROVERSIES

PLUS

*BEARS PRO BOWLERS
*88 SEASON REVIEW
*89 PREVIEW
*89 PREDICTIONS
*TRAINING CAMP HIGHLIGHTS
*89 DRAFT ANALYSIS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

32 PAGES PACKED FULL
OF CHICAGO BEARS
INFORMATION



TIME OUT

**STOP A MOMENT . . . DON'T PASS UP THIS FREE,
NO OBLIGATION OFFER**

**YOUR TICKET TO THE CHAMPIONS, THE CHICAGO BEARS,
STARTS WITH YOUR NEXT FREE ISSUE**

Yes, '88 was another exciting year . . . with the Bears repeating as NFC Central Division Champions for the fifth straight year (compiling the best winning percentage in the NFL during that same period) only to find themselves again, a few steps short of the Super Bowl . . . and this off-season like the past couple promises to be an interesting one.

We all know Coach Ditka was unhappy with the ending of the past three seasons and that he won't be happy until the Bears return to the Super Bowl to battle for the World Championship.

Many pre-season pollsters feel the Bears are odds-on favorites to be in Super Bowl XXIV . . . and we know that you won't want to miss any of the '89 action . . . and when you "Sign Up" with a subscription to BEAR REPORT WE CAN GUARANTEE YOU WON'T.

The media critics tout us as the best team tabloid in the NFL . . . let us prove it to you. Sign up today and we will send you TWO

FREE, NO OBLIGATION ISSUES. That's right we're that confident. We will deliver to you the inside story on the players, coaches, front office and the entire NFL . . . plus stats, standings, scouting reports, key match-ups and predictions of the winners on the weekly schedule. In addition, you will receive a BONUS, featuring a full-color centerspread poster of your favorite players.

INTRODUCTORY OFFER

Accept your first two issues absolutely FREE at no obligation. Subscribe today and we will enter your name as a subscriber for 26 more issues, that's 28 in all, at the low price of \$24.95. That's a savings of over \$25 off the regular newsstand price.

Examine your Free issues carefully. If they don't deliver what we promised, simply write us and we will refund the subscription price. Or if you asked to be "Billed Later," just write cancel on the invoice we mail you . . . either way you keep the TWO FREE ISSUES.

☐ **YES!** Sign me up to BEAR REPORT for 26 issues . . . and send me my TWO FREE COPIES.

I understand I may cancel by simply writing "Cancel" on the invoice, and I can keep the TWO FREE ISSUES. I will receive 28 issues in all, weekly during the pre-season and regular season and monthly in the off-season.

MAIL TO: BEAR REPORT
112 Market Street
Sun Prairie, WI 53590-2986

ONE YEAR, 28 ISSUES, \$24.95

☐ Payment Enclosed ☐ Bill Me Later
☐ Charge My Credit Card ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA

☐ MARK HERE FOR RENEWAL AND WRITE IN
YOUR ACCOUNT NUMBER BELOW

Acct. # _____

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

ONE YEAR, 28 ISSUES, \$24.95